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Patent Application Transmittal

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Inventor: Martin J. Bright and Joan L. Mitchell

For: REDUCED-ERROR PROCESSING OF TRANSFORMED DIGITAL DATA

Enclosed are:

☒ 38 sheets of drawings.

☐ An assignment of the invention to International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, New York 10504.

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Respectfully submitted,

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3040119624US

1 **REDUCED-ERROR PROCESSING OF TRANSFORMED DIGITAL DATA**2 **CROSS REFERENCES**

3 The present application is related to the following
4 applications even dated herewith: Attorney docket number
5 Y0998-372, entitled, "Transform-domain correction of real-
6 domain errors," by inventors J. Mitchell et al., and
7 Attorney docket number Y0998-373, entitled, "Error reduction
8 in transformed digital data," by inventors M. Bright et al.,
9 which are incorporated herein in entirety by reference.

10 **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

11 This invention relates to transform coding of digital
12 data, specifically to real domain processing of transform
13 data. More particularly, this invention relates to
14 reduced-error digital processing of inverse transformed
15 data.

16 **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

17 Transform coding is the name given to a wide family of
18 techniques for data coding, in which each block of data to
19 be coded is transformed by some mathematical function prior
20 to further processing. A block of data may be a part of a
21 data object being coded, or may be the entire object. The

1 data generally represent some phenomenon, which may be for
2 example a spectral or spectrum analysis, an image, an audio
3 clip, a video clip, etc. The transform function is usually
4 chosen to reflect some quality of the phenomenon being
5 coded; for example, in coding of audio, still images and
6 motion pictures, the Fourier transform or Discrete Cosine
7 Transform (DCT) can be used to analyze the data into
8 frequency terms or coefficients. Given the phenomenon being
9 coded, there is generally a concentration of the information
10 into a few frequency coefficients. Therefore, the
11 transformed data can often be more economically encoded or
12 compressed than the original data. This means that
13 transform coding can be used to compress certain types of
14 data to minimize storage space or transmission time over a
15 communication link.

16 An example of transform coding in use is found in the
17 Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG) international
18 standard for still image compression, as defined by *ITU-T*
19 *Rec. T.81 (1992) | ISO/IEC 10918-1:1994, Information*
20 *technology — Digital compression and coding of*
21 *continuous-tone still images, Part 1: Requirements and*
22 *Guidelines*. Another example is the Moving Pictures Experts
23 Group (MPEG) international standard for motion picture
24 compression, defined by *ISO/IEC 11172:1993, Information*
25 *Technology — Coding of moving pictures and associated audio*
26 *for digital storage media at up to about 1,5 Mbits/s*. This
27 MPEG-1 standard defines systems for both video compression
28 (Part 2 of the standard) and audio compression (Part 3). A
29 more recent MPEG video standard (MPEG-2) is defined by *ITU-T*
30 *Rec. H.262 | ISO/IEC 13818-2: 1996 Information Technology —*

1 Generic Coding of moving pictures and associated audio --
 2 Part 2: video. A newer audio standard is ISO/IEC 13818-3:
 3 1996 Information Technology — Generic Coding of moving
 4 pictures and associated audio -- Part 3: audio. All three
 5 image international data compression standards use the DCT
 6 on 8x8 blocks of samples to achieve image compression. DCT
 7 compression of images is used herein to give illustrations
 8 of the general concepts put forward below; a complete
 9 explanation can be found in Chapter 4 "The Discrete Cosine
 10 Transform (DCT)" in W. B. Pennebaker and J. L. Mitchell,
 11 *JPEG: Still Image Data Compression Standard*, Van Nostrand
 12 Reinhold: New York, (1993).

13 Wavelet coding is another form of transform coding.
 14 Special localized basis functions allow wavelet coding to
 15 preserve edges and small details. For compression the
 16 transformed data is usually quantized. Wavelet coding is
 17 used for fingerprint identification by the FBI. Wavelet
 18 coding is a subset of the more general subband coding
 19 technique. Subband coding uses filter banks to decompose the
 20 data into particular bands. Compression is achieved by
 21 quantizing the lower frequency bands more finely than the
 22 higher frequency bands while sampling the lower frequency
 23 bands more coarsely than the higher frequency bands. A
 24 summary of wavelet, DCT, and other transform coding is given
 25 in Chapter 5 "Compression Algorithms for Diffuse Data" in
 26 Roy Hoffman, *Data Compression in Digital Systems*, Chapman
 27 and Hall: New York, (1997).

28 In any technology and for any phenomenon represented by
 29 digital data, the data before a transformation is performed
 30 are referred to as being "in the real domain". After a

1 transformation is performed, the new data are often called
 2 "transform data" or "transform coefficients", and referred
 3 to as being "in the transform domain". The function used to
 4 take data from the real domain to the transform domain is
 5 called the "forward transform". The mathematical inverse of
 6 the forward transform, which takes data from the transform
 7 domain to the real domain, is called the respective "inverse
 8 transform".

9 In general, the forward transform will produce
 10 real-valued data, not necessarily integers. To achieve data
 11 compression, the transform coefficients are converted to
 12 integers by the process of quantization. Suppose that (λ_i)
 13 is a set of real-valued transform coefficients resulting
 14 from the forward transform of one unit of data. Note that
 15 one unit of data may be a one-dimensional or two-dimensional
 16 block of data samples or even the entire data. The
 17 "quantization values" (q_i) are parameters to the encoding
 18 process. The "quantized transform coefficients" or
 19 "transform-coded data" are the sequence of values (a_i)
 20 defined by the quantization function Q :

$$21 \quad a_i = Q(\lambda_i) = \left\lfloor \frac{\lambda_i}{q_i} + 0.5 \right\rfloor \quad (1)$$

22 where $\lfloor x \rfloor$ means the greatest integer less than or equal to x .

23 The resulting integers are then passed on for possible
 24 further encoding or compression before being stored or
 25 transmitted. To decode the data, the quantized coefficients
 26 are multiplied by the quantization values to give new
 27 "dequantized coefficients" (λ'_i) given by

$$28 \quad \lambda'_i = q_i a_i. \quad (2)$$

1 The process of quantization followed by dequantization
 2 (also called inverse quantization) can thus be described as
 3 "rounding to the nearest multiple of q_i ". The quantization
 4 values are chosen so that the loss of information in the
 5 quantization step is within some specified bound. For
 6 example, for audio or image data, one quantization level is
 7 usually the smallest change in data that can be perceived.
 8 It is quantization that allows transform coding to achieve
 9 good data compression ratios. A good choice of transform
 10 allows quantization values to be chosen which will
 11 significantly cut down the amount of data to be encoded.
 12 For example, the DCT is chosen for image compression because
 13 the frequency components which result produce almost
 14 independent responses from the human visual system. This
 15 means that the coefficients relating to those components to
 16 which the visual system is less sensitive, namely the
 17 high-frequency components, may be quantized using large
 18 quantization values without perceptible loss of image
 19 quality. Coefficients relating to components to which the
 20 visual system is more sensitive, namely the low-frequency
 21 components, are quantized using smaller quantization values.

22 The inverse transform also generally produces
 23 non-integer data. Usually the decoded data are required to
 24 be in integer form. For example, systems for the playback
 25 of audio data or the display of image data generally accept
 26 input in the form of integers. For this reason, a transform
 27 decoder generally includes a step that converts the
 28 non-integer data from the inverse transform to integer data,
 29 either by truncation or by rounding to the nearest integer.
 30 There is also often a limit on the range of the integer data

1 output from the decoding process in order that the data may
2 be stored in a given number of bits. For this reason the
3 decoder also often includes a "clipping" stage that ensures
4 that the output data are in an acceptable range. If the
5 acceptable range is $[a,b]$, then all values less than a are
6 changed to a , and all values greater than b are changed to
7 b .

8 These rounding and clipping processes are often
9 considered an integral part of the decoder, and it is these
10 which are the cause of inaccuracies in decoded data and in
11 particular when decoded data are re-encoded. For example,
12 the JPEG standard (Part 1) specifies that a source image
13 sample is defined as an integer with precision P bits, with
14 any value in the range 0 to $2^P - 1$. The decoder is
15 expected to reconstruct the output from the inverse discrete
16 cosine transform (IDCT) to the specified precision. For the
17 baseline JPEG coding P is defined to be 8; for other
18 DCT-based coding P can be 8 or 12. The MPEG-2 video
19 standard states in Annex A (Discrete cosine transform) "The
20 input to the forward transform and the output from the
21 inverse transform is represented with 9 bits."

22 For JPEG the compliance test data for the encoder
23 source image test data and the decoder reference test data
24 are 8 bit/sample integers. Even though rounding to integers
25 is typical, some programming languages convert from floating
26 point to integers by truncation. Implementations in
27 software that accept this conversion to integers by
28 truncation introduce larger errors into the real-domain
29 integer output from the inverse transform.

1 The term "high-precision" is used herein to refer to
2 numerical values which are stored to a precision more
3 accurate than the precision used when storing the values as
4 integers. Examples of high-precision numbers are
5 floating-point or fixed-point representations of numbers.

6 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

7 In light of the problems described above regarding
8 inaccuracies caused by digital processing techniques and by
9 such things as rounding and clipping after the inverse
10 transform of transform data, one aspect of this invention
11 provides a method for processing transform data in the real
12 domain. This method reduces the undesired errors in the
13 data produced by such things as rounding to integers and
14 clipping to an allowed range after the inverse transform.
15 In an embodiment, this method includes: performing the
16 inverse transform of the transform data such that the
17 real-domain data produced are in the form of high-precision
18 numbers; processing these high-precision numbers; and
19 converting the processed high-precision numbers to integers
20 and clipping to an allowed range only after the processing
21 stage is complete.

22 It is another aspect of this invention to provide a
23 method for processing transform-coded data in the real
24 domain which reduces the undesired errors in the data
25 produced by the converting to integers and clipping to an
26 allowed range after the inverse transform. In an
27 embodiment, the method includes: performing the inverse

1 quantization of the transform-coded data; performing the
2 inverse transform of the transform data thus produced, such
3 that the real-domain data produced are in the form of
4 high-precision numbers; processing these high-precision
5 numbers; and converting the processed high-precision numbers
6 to integers and clipping to an allowed range only after the
7 processing stage is complete.

8 Still another aspect of the present invention is to
9 provide a method for processing transform-coded data in the
10 real domain to produce new transform-coded data, which
11 reduces the error produced by converting to integers and
12 clipping to an allowed range after the inverse transform.
13 In an embodiment, this method includes: performing the
14 inverse quantization of the transform-coded data; performing
15 the inverse transform of the transform data thus produced,
16 such that the real-domain data produced are in the form of
17 high-precision numbers; processing these high-precision
18 numbers; performing the forward transform on the processed
19 high-precision numbers; and performing quantization on the
20 new transform data. If the errors in the forward and
21 inverse transforms and in the processing are sufficiently
22 small, there will be no undesirable errors produced in the
23 new quantized transform-domain data.

24 There is no requirement that the input data to the
25 methods described herein need come from a single data
26 source. Thus, this invention is not restricted to the
27 real-domain processing of data from a single source, but
28 also applies to real-domain processing of data from multiple
29 sources, such as the merging of images or audio data.

1 The quantization described in the background is the
2 linear quantization used in international image data
3 compression standards such as JPEG and MPEG. There is no
4 requirement that the quantization be linear. Any mapping
5 that reduces the number of transform data levels in a
6 deterministic way can be used with this invention. The
7 quantization step has been described mathematically with a
8 division in Equation (1). Actual embodiments may use a
9 lookup table or a sequence of comparisons to achieve similar
10 results.

11 It is a further aspect of the invention to provide
12 apparatus, a computer product and an article of manufacture
13 comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable
14 program code means embodied therein for causing a computer
15 to perform the methods of the present invention.

16 **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FIGURES**

17 These and other objects, features, and advantages of
18 the present invention will become apparent upon further
19 consideration of the following detailed description of the
20 invention when read in conjunction with the drawing figures,
21 in which:

22 FIG. 1(a) is a block diagram showing a method for
23 performing an inverse transform;

24 FIG. 1(b) is a block diagram showing a system for
25 performing an inverse transform;

26 FIG. 2(a) is a block diagram showing a method for
27 decoding transform-coded data;

1 FIG. 2(b) is a block diagram showing a system for
2 decoding transform-coded data;

3 FIG. 3 is a block diagram showing a method for the
4 real-domain processing of transform data;

5 FIG. 4 is a block diagram showing a method for
6 performing an inverse transform followed by a forward
7 transform, and demonstrating the multi-generation problem;

8 FIG. 5 is a block diagram showing a method for decoding
9 and re-encoding transform-coded data, and demonstrating the
10 multi-generation problem;

11 FIG. 6 is a block diagram showing a method for
12 performing an inverse transform, real-domain data
13 manipulation and a forward transform, and demonstrating the
14 multi-generation problem;

15 FIG. 7(a) is a block diagram showing a method for
16 performing real-domain processing of JPEG DCT-coded image
17 data, which exhibits the multi-generation problem;

18 FIG. 7(b) is a block diagram showing a system for
19 performing real-domain processing of JPEG DCT-coded image
20 data, which exhibits the multi-generation problem;

21 Fig. 8(a) gives the JPEG example luminance quantization
22 matrix;

23 Fig. 8(b) gives the JPEG example chrominance
24 quantization matrix;

25 FIG. 8(c) is a numerical example of how real-domain
26 rounding can cause significant errors in 8x8 block DCT coded
27 data;

1 FIG. 8(d) is a numerical example of how real-domain
2 truncation can cause significant errors in 8x8 block DCT
3 coded data;

4 FIG. 8(e) is a series of graphs illustrating how
5 real-domain clipping can cause errors in one-dimensional
6 discrete cosine transform-coded data;

7 FIG. 8(f) and FIG. 8(g) are a numerical example of how
8 real-domain clipping can cause significant errors in 8x8
9 block DCT coded data;

10 FIG. 9 is a block diagram showing a method performing
11 multiple iterations of the process described in FIG. 5, and
12 exhibiting the multi-generation problem;

13 FIG. 10 is a block diagram showing a method for
14 performing multiple iterations of real-domain manipulations,
15 and exhibiting the multi-generation problem;

16 FIG. 11(a) is a block diagram showing an example of a
17 method for reduced-error processing of transform data in
18 accordance with the present invention;

19 FIG. 11(b) is a block diagram showing an example of a
20 system for reduced-error processing of transform data in
21 accordance with the present invention;

22 FIG. 12(a) is a block diagram showing an example of a
23 method for performing an inverse transform followed by a
24 forward transform, such that this process is lossless in
25 accordance with the present invention;

26 FIG. 12(b) is a block diagram showing an example of a
27 system for performing an inverse transform followed by a

1 forward transform, such that this process is lossless in
2 accordance with the present invention;

3 FIG. 13(a) is a block diagram showing an example of a
4 method for performing real-domain manipulation of transform
5 data with reduced error followed by a forward transform in
6 accordance with the present invention;

7 FIG. 13(b) is a block diagram showing an example of a
8 system for performing real-domain manipulation of transform
9 data with reduced error followed by a forward transform in
10 accordance with the present invention;

11 FIG. 14(a) is a block diagram showing an example of a
12 method for reduced-error processing of transform-coded data
13 in accordance with the present invention;

14 FIG. 14(b) is a block diagram showing an example of a
15 system for reduced-error processing of transform-coded data
16 in accordance with the present invention;

17 FIG. 15(a) is a block diagram showing an example of a
18 method for decoding and re-encoding transform-coded data
19 such that this process is lossless in accordance with the
20 present invention;

21 FIG. 15(b) is a block diagram showing an example of a
22 system for decoding and re-encoding transform-coded data
23 such that this process is lossless in accordance with the
24 present invention;

25 FIG. 16(a) is a block diagram showing an example of a
26 method for performing real-domain manipulation of
27 transform-coded data with reduced error in accordance with
28 the present invention;

1 FIG. 16(b) is a block diagram showing an example of a
2 system for performing real-domain manipulation of
3 transform-coded data with reduced error in accordance with
4 the present invention;

5 FIG. 17(a) is a block diagram showing an example
6 embodiment of a method for performing real-domain processing
7 of JPEG-coded image data, such that undesired errors in the
8 new transform-coded data are reduced or eliminated in
9 accordance with the present invention;

10 FIG. 17(b) is a block diagram showing an example
11 embodiment of a system for performing real-domain processing
12 of JPEG-coded image data, such that undesired errors in the
13 new transform-coded data are reduced or eliminated in
14 accordance with the present invention;

15 FIG. 18(a) is a block diagram showing an example of a
16 method for performing multiple iterations of the real-domain
17 manipulation of transform-coded data with reduced error,
18 where each iteration is as described in FIG. 16(a) in
19 accordance with the present invention;

20 FIG. 18(b) is a block diagram showing an example of a
21 system for performing multiple iterations of the real-domain
22 manipulation of transform-coded data with reduced error,
23 where each iteration is as described in FIG. 16(b) in
24 accordance with the present invention;

25 FIG. 19(a) shows the same 8x8 block numerical starting
26 point of FIG. 8(c) using the high-precision numbers as input
27 to the forward transform instead of the rounded numbers;

1 FIG. 19(b) shows the same 8x8 block numerical starting
2 point of FIG. 8(d) using the high-precision numbers as input
3 to the forward transform instead of the truncated numbers;

4 FIG. 19(c) shows the same 8x8 block numerical steps as
5 FIG. 8(f); and

6 FIG. 19(d) shows the numerical results when the output
7 of the inverse DCT with rounding, but before clipping, is
8 input to the forward transform followed by quantization.

9 **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM**

10 This invention provides methods, systems, and computer
11 products which reduce or eliminate errors introduced by the
12 processing of digital data. Firstly, the source of the
13 error is analyzed and described. This is followed by a
14 presentation of the invention concepts for error reduction
15 and elimination. It is particularly noted that data
16 manipulation and/or processing as employed here-to-before
17 used digital techniques contaminated by the continued
18 introducing of errors by the respective implementation of
19 digital processing. These techniques employed for years are
20 responsible for an inability to maintain original data
21 precision and the continued deterioration of the data
22 representing the phenomenon as more processing is performed.
23 This is particularly detrimental when a process is performed
24 on data which contain errors imparted on the data by
25 previous processes. This results in the continued
26 impairment of the data which thereby becomes less and less
27 useful as more and more processes are performed thereupon.

1 The seriousness of the problem as realized by the
2 inventors of the present invention is described forthwith.
3 It is noted that in the figures presented herein, optional
4 steps are often shown with dashed lines and/or boxes.

5 It is noted that the concepts of the present invention
6 are useful in almost any digital processing technology.
7 However, the subsequent description is mostly related to
8 image data. This is because of the general availability and
9 continued usage of image data compression standards which
10 are employed worldwide. These standards require the
11 introduction into the digital data of the errors to be
12 described and the continued employment and processing of the
13 error contaminated data. These standards basically teach
14 away from the present invention. Thus image technology is a
15 good example for describing the present invention.

16 Figure 1(a) shows an inverse transform method **100**.
17 Transform-domain data 'A' **110** are acted on by the inverse
18 transform **120**, which produces high-precision real-valued
19 data **130**. The high-precision data **130** are converted to
20 integers and clipped **140** to produce integer real-domain data
21 **150**. In some cases, the integer-valued data are optionally
22 sent to an output device **160**.

23 Figure 1(b) shows an inverse transform system **105**.
24 Transform-domain data 'A' **115** are acted on by the inverse
25 transformer **125**, which produces high-precision real-valued
26 data **135**. The high-precision data **135** are input to the
27 integer converter and clipper **145** to produce integer
28 real-domain data **155**. In some cases, the integer-valued

1 data are optionally input to an output device **165** such as a
2 display monitor, a television set, or an audio player.

3 Figure 2(a) shows a method **200** for decoding
4 transform-coded (i.e. quantized) data. The integer
5 transform-coded data 'B' **210** are inverse quantized **220** (i.e.
6 dequantized) with quantization values as in Equation (2)
7 above. The result of the dequantizing step may then be
8 passed as input to the inverse transform **120**, and decoding
9 proceeds as in Figure 1(a).

10 Figure 2(b) shows a system **205** for decoding
11 transform-coded (i.e. quantized) data. The integer
12 transform-coded data 'B' **215** are input to the inverse
13 quantizer **225** with quantization values as in Equation (2)
14 above. The result of the dequantizing step is passed as
15 input to the inverse transformer **125**, and decoding proceeds
16 as in Figure 1(b).

17 One aspect of the present invention is concerned with
18 the manipulation of both transform data and transform-coded
19 data. The words "manipulation" and "processing" are used
20 interchangeably herein. Manipulation may be employed in
21 order to achieve many different results. For example, image
22 data must often be processed before printing by scaling
23 and/or rotation. Data from two sources can be merged as is
24 performed in chroma-keying of images or mixing of audio
25 data. Manual manipulation of data is often needed for
26 editing or color correction. Such manipulation of transform
27 data are often performed on the integer real-domain data
28 which results from the transform decoding of Figure 1(a)
29 and/or Figure 2(a).

1 A process for manipulation of transform data **300** is
2 shown in Figure 3. Integer data **150** undergo some form of
3 manipulation **310**. If this manipulation **310** does not produce
4 integer output, the manipulated output **340** is again
5 converted to integers and clipped **320**. The resulting
6 integer data **330** may be stored, transmitted, and/or
7 optionally sent to an output device **160**. Because the stage
8 of clipping and converting to integers **140** is performed
9 before the manipulation which accepts integer input **150**, the
10 resulting errors cause the data output from the manipulation
11 **340** to contain at least small inaccuracies.

12 It is noted that there is no requirement in the data
13 manipulation processes described above, for the input data
14 to come entirely from one source. For example, many types
15 of data manipulation involve the merging of data from two or
16 more sources. This includes manipulations such as mixing of
17 audio data or merging of images. The processes illustrated
18 in the figures and described generally apply equally well to
19 such types of manipulation. Thus the "input data" used for
20 any of the processes described may in practice come from
21 more than one input source.

22 It is often the case that data after manipulation are
23 to be re-encoded to the transform domain. It is desirable
24 that the process of decoding and re-encoding, when no
25 manipulation is performed on the real-domain data, should be
26 lossless. That is, the data, when the forward transform
27 operation uses the same transform type operation as the
28 inverse transform type of transform operation, should result
29 in exactly the same transform-domain data as was present

1 initially. However, errors are introduced by the converting
 2 to integers and clipping to the allowed range as is
 3 illustrated in Figure 4. Figure 4 shows the integer data
 4 **150** used as input to the forward transform device **410**, which
 5 accepts integer-valued data as input. The resulting
 6 transform data 'A1' **420** are different from the original
 7 transform data 'A' **110** which were the input to the inverse
 8 transform. This is because the conversion to integers and
 9 the clipping process **140** have introduced errors into the
 10 process. The problem caused by the changes in data after
 11 each iteration, or "generation", of this process is herein
 12 called the "multi-generation problem".

13 The multi-generation problem is also illustrated for
 14 transform-coded data in Figure 5. Here the new
 15 transform-domain data **420** are quantized **510** to produce new
 16 transform-coded data 'B1' **520**. It is important to realize
 17 that the quantized data can only change if the errors
 18 produced are larger than half a quantization step:

$$19 \quad Q(\lambda_i + \varepsilon) = Q(\lambda_i) \quad \text{if } |\varepsilon| < 0.5q_i \quad (3)$$

20 where ε is the error produced in this transform coefficient.
 21 This is because each of the λ_i is already a multiple of the
 22 quantization value, since they have been produced by
 23 dequantization as in Equation (2). Thus it is advantageous
 24 to control the errors so that they are sufficiently small.
 25 When the errors are sufficiently small, the new
 26 transform-coded data will be exactly the same as the
 27 original transform-coded data. The maximum possible error
 28 introduced by the conversion to integers by rounding is half
 29 the error introduced by truncating during the conversion.

1 Figure 6 shows a case wherein image manipulation is
 2 performed on the data and the resulting modified data are
 3 then re-transformed back to the transform domain. The
 4 integer data **150** are manipulated as was shown in Figure 3 to
 5 produce new integer-valued data **610**. These new
 6 integer-valued data **610** are used as the input to the forward
 7 transform **410** to produce new transform data 'A2' **620**. The
 8 fact that the process described above without any
 9 manipulation produces changes in the transform data **110**
 10 shows that when manipulation is performed there are
 11 undesired changes in the transform data **110** in addition to
 12 those which result from the desired manipulation.

13 An example of a method which embodies the process shown
 14 in Figure 6, is shown in Figure 7(a). The method **700**
 15 illustrated performs real-domain manipulation on coded data
 16 such as JPEG-coded image data. The coded data 'C' **710** are
 17 entropy decoded **720**, which is defined for JPEG-coded data in
 18 the JPEG standard. The entropy decode step **720** decompresses
 19 the data into quantized DCT coefficients. These quantized
 20 coefficients are inverse quantized **730** and passed to the
 21 inverse transform, which in this system is the
 22 two-dimensional 8x8 inverse DCT **740**. The resulting
 23 real-valued image data are rounded to integers and clipped
 24 **750** to the allowed range (e.g. [0,255]) to produce
 25 integer-valued image data **754** in the allowed range.

26 If it is necessary to show the data before
 27 manipulation, for example when the image manipulation is an
 28 interactive process, the image can optionally be sent to a
 29 display device **758**. The image is then manipulated **762** to

1 produce some desired change. If the result of the
 2 manipulation is non-integer data then the image data may be
 3 converted to integers and clipped to the range e.g. [0,255]
 4 **768**. In this way the image data **772** may again be displayed
 5 **758**. The new real-domain image data **772** are passed to the
 6 forward DCT **776** and the resulting DCT coefficients are
 7 quantized **780** to produce new quantized DCT coefficients **784**.
 8 These coefficients **784** are then entropy encoded **788** to
 9 produce new coded data 'C1' **792** which are different from the
 10 original coded data 'C' **710**. Now the new coded data 'C1'
 11 **792** incorporates not only the desired changes made to the
 12 image by the image manipulation **762**, but also the errors
 13 resulting from the converting and clipping stages **750** and
 14 **768**. It would be advantageous to eliminate or reduce these
 15 errors.

16 An example of a system which embodies the process shown
 17 in Figure 6, is shown in Figure 7(b). The system **705**
 18 performs real-domain manipulation on coded data. The coded
 19 data 'C' **715** are input to the entropy decoder **725**, which is
 20 defined for JPEG-coded data in the JPEG standard. The
 21 entropy decoder **725** decompresses the data into quantized DCT
 22 coefficients. These quantized coefficients are input to the
 23 inverse quantizer **735** and the output passed to the inverse
 24 transformer, which in this system is the two-dimensional 8x8
 25 inverse DCT-er **745**. The resulting real-valued image data
 26 are rounded to integers and clipped **755** (e.g. to the range
 27 [0,255]) to produce integer-valued image data **759** in the
 28 allowed range.

1 If it is necessary to show the data before
2 manipulation, for example when the image manipulation is an
3 interactive process, the image can optionally be sent to a
4 display **763**. The image is operated on by a manipulator **767**
5 to produce some desired change. If the result of the
6 manipulation is non-integer data then the image data may be
7 passed to another integer converter and clipper **773**. In
8 this way the image data **777** may again be displayed **763**. The
9 new real-domain image data **777** are passed to the forward
10 DCT-er **781** and the resulting DCT coefficients are input to
11 the quantizer **785** to produce new quantized DCT coefficients
12 **789**. These coefficients **789** are then input to the entropy
13 encoder **793** to produce new coded data 'C1' **797** which are
14 different from the original coded data 'C' **715**. Now the new
15 coded data 'C1' **797** incorporates not only the desired
16 changes made to the image by the image manipulator **767**, but
17 also the errors resulting from the integer converter and
18 clippers **755** and **773**.

19 Figure 8(a) shows the JPEG example luminance
20 quantization matrix **804** for 8x8 DCT luminance blocks. Figure
21 8(b) gives the JPEG example chrominance quantization matrix
22 **814** for 8x8 DCT chrominance blocks. The smallest
23 quantization value in Figure 8(a) is 10. The smallest
24 quantization value in Figure 8(b) is 17. Since the maximum
25 possible error from rounding is 0.5 for each of 64 samples,
26 the largest error in the unquantized forward transform
27 coefficients from conversion to integers by rounding is 4
28 (shown in Figure 8(c)) for JPEG. For the quantization
29 matrices shown in Figures 8(a) and 8(b) this size error is

1 less than half of all of the values and will disappear
2 during quantization. However, for high quality applications
3 such as high end printing or digital studio editing, the
4 quantization matrix values are much smaller. In some cases,
5 the DC (upper left corner) term is as small as 1 to preserve
6 maximum quality. Then the rounding errors are significant.

7 The maximum possible error from truncating is just
8 under 1 for each sample. This almost doubles the error in
9 the unquantized forward transform coefficients. For the
10 quantization matrix in Figure 8(a) eight quantization values
11 are small enough for this error to potentially change the
12 transform-coded data.

13 A numerical example showing the multi-generation
14 problem is given in Figure 8(c). In this example the
15 transform used is the 8x8 DCT as used in the JPEG still
16 image compression standard. A set of transform-domain
17 coefficients **822**, of which only one (the constant, or DC,
18 term) is non-zero, are operated on by the inverse transform
19 to produce an block of real-domain data **824**. In this case
20 the data consist of 64 values which are all equal to 128.5.
21 Note that the JPEG level shift of 128 for 8 bit data has
22 been applied. The real-domain data are rounded to the
23 nearest integers **826**, which in this case means that each
24 value is rounded up to 129. The forward transform is then
25 applied to produce new transform-domain coefficients **828**.
26 It can be seen that the resulting new transform coefficients
27 **828** are significantly different from the initial transform
28 coefficients **822**. This is a highly undesirable result.

1 This example also applies to transform-coded data if
 2 the DC quantization value is set to 1, 2, or 4. Then the
 3 transform coefficients **822** would be produced from
 4 transform-coded values of 4, 2, or 1 respectively. The
 5 quantization of the new transform coefficients **828** would
 6 change the resulting DC quantization values to 2, 4, or 8
 7 respectively.

8 Another numerical example showing the multi-generation
 9 problem is given in Figure 8(d). Again the transform used
 10 is the 8x8 DCT as used in the JPEG still image compression
 11 standard. A set of transform-domain coefficients **832**, of
 12 which only one (the constant, or DC, term) is non-zero, are
 13 operated on by the inverse transform to produce a block of
 14 real-domain data **834**. In this case the data consist of 64
 15 values which are all equal to 128.875. Note that the JPEG
 16 level shift of 128 for 8 bit data has been applied. The
 17 real-domain data are truncated to the nearest integers **836**,
 18 which in this case means that each value is reduced to 128.
 19 The forward transform is then applied to produce new
 20 transform-domain coefficients **838**. It can be seen that the
 21 resulting new transform coefficients **838** are significantly
 22 different from the initial transform coefficients **832**. This
 23 is a highly undesirable result.

24 Having demonstrated the errors caused by real-domain
 25 rounding or truncating when converting to integers, we now
 26 show how real-domain clipping can cause errors. Figure 8(e)
 27 shows an example of real-domain clipping **850**. This example
 28 uses the one-dimensional DCT to illustrate the problem.

1 Figure 8(d) shows a bar chart **854** displaying one block of
 2 data consisting of eight samples. The data displayed has
 3 only two frequency components: a constant, or DC, component
 4 which is indicated by the dotted line; and an alternating,
 5 or AC, component which gives an alternating wave pattern
 6 symmetrical about the dotted line. The magnitudes of these
 7 components, namely the respective DCT coefficients, are
 8 high-precision numbers. When quantization is performed,
 9 these DCT coefficients are rounded to the nearest
 10 quantization level. The data after transform-domain
 11 quantization are shown in the bar chart **858**. In the example
 12 shown, the DC coefficient has a small quantization value and
 13 so quantization does not change the DC level significantly.
 14 The AC coefficient shown has a large quantization value and
 15 so is changed significantly by quantization. This example
 16 shows the AC component almost doubling in magnitude due to
 17 quantization. These quantization values reflect, for
 18 example, those used when compressing chrominance image data.
 19 Thus the data represented after quantization have parts
 20 which have negative values. This shows how transform-domain
 21 data which, after inverse transforming, give real-domain
 22 negative values can be produced by original real-domain data
 23 which do not contain negative values.

24 Bar chart **862** shows the data produced from that in
 25 chart **858** after real-domain clipping. Those negative parts
 26 of the real data have been changed to 0. This results in
 27 the DC coefficient of the data increasing and hence leads to
 28 error being introduced. Because the quantization value for
 29 the DC coefficient is generally small, the error is large

1 enough to cause a change in the quantized data as given in
2 Equation (3).

3 To further illustrate the possibility of error
4 introduced by real-domain clipping, a numerical example **870**
5 is shown in Figures 8(f) and 8(g). This example employs the
6 system illustrated in Figure 5. This example uses the
7 two-dimensional 8x8 DCT as used for transform coding of
8 images to illustrate the problem described above. The
9 initial quantized DCT coefficients are shown in matrix **874**.
10 All but two of the coefficients are 0; the two non-zero
11 coefficients are the DC coefficient and one high-frequency
12 coefficient. The coefficients, after dequantizing using the
13 quantization matrix shown in Figure 8(a), are shown in
14 matrix **878**. When the inverse DCT is performed on these
15 transform data and the level shift of 128 added, real data
16 are produced as shown in matrix **882**. The data shown in
17 matrix **882** have already been rounded to integers but have
18 not been clipped to an allowed range. It can be seen that
19 these real data include several negative values. After
20 clipping, the real data **882** produce clipped real data as
21 shown in matrix **886**. These data are identical to **882** except
22 that each negative value has been replaced by 0. The
23 forward DCT is then applied to the real-domain data to give
24 new rounded transform data **890**. It can be seen that the new
25 transform data are significantly different from the previous
26 transform data **878**. When quantization is performed using
27 the quantization matrix shown in Figure 8(a), new
28 transform-coded data **894** are produced. The resulting
29 changes in the transform data are large enough to produce

1 changes in the transform-coded data after quantization.
2 This is a highly undesirable result.

3 In many situations, the process of decoding,
4 manipulation and re-encoding of data needs to be done
5 multiple times. In these situations each iteration of this
6 process is referred to as a "generation". The errors
7 described above, caused by converting to integers and
8 clipping to an allowed range in the real domain, accumulate
9 as multiple iterations are performed and may result in
10 significant degradation of the data. It is realized that the
11 foregoing are only representative examples of errors
12 introduced by rounding (or truncating) and/or clipping.
13 Other examples having more or less error developed are
14 possible.

15 The problem is usually even worse following multiple
16 generations of decoding and re-encoding as shown in Figure
17 9. Initial transform-coded data 'D0' 910 is dequantized and
18 inverse transformed 920, converted to integers and clipped
19 to an allowed range 930 to produce integer-valued
20 real-domain data 940. The real-domain data 940 are passed
21 to the forward transform and quantized 950 to give new
22 transform-coded data 'D1' 960. This whole process is
23 iterated several times, and after some number 'n' of
24 iterations the final transform-coded data 'Dn' 970 is
25 produced. Because of errors in each step the final data
26 'Dn' 970 may be very different from the original data.

27 A case showing the problem significantly worsened due
28 to multiple generations of real-domain manipulation of
29 transform-coded data is shown in Figure 10. In addition to

1 the steps shown in Figure 9, some form of manipulation **310**
2 is performed on the real-domain data, followed by converting
3 to integers and clipping **320**. After the forward transform
4 and quantization, the resulting quantized transform
5 coefficients **1010** contain some error as in Figure 5. After
6 'n' generations, the final transform quantized coefficients
7 **1020** may have quite large undesired errors.

8 **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

9 An example embodiment of a method for processing
10 transform data with reduced error **1100** is illustrated in
11 Figure 11(a). Transform data 'A' **110** are passed through an
12 inverse transform **120** to produce high-precision real-domain
13 data **130**, as in Figure 1(a). If it is necessary to pass the
14 real-domain data to an output device **160** which takes
15 integer-valued input, or to generate integer-valued data
16 before manipulation for any other reason, the steps of
17 converting to integers and clipping to an allowed range **140**
18 is done before manipulation without affecting the high-
19 precision real-domain data. The desired manipulation **1110**
20 of the real-domain data is performed using a method which
21 accepts high-precision data as input and produces
22 high-precision data **1120** as output. This manipulation
23 method **1110** performs conceptually the same processing on the
24 data as the manipulation on integers **310** described above in
25 Figure 3, but operates instead on high-precision data. If
26 it is necessary to pass the manipulated real-domain data to
27 an output device **160** which takes integer-valued input, or to

1 generate integer-valued data after manipulation for any
2 other reason, the steps of converting to integers and
3 clipping to an allowed range **140** are done after manipulation
4 without affecting the high precision of the processed data.

5 An example embodiment of a system for processing
6 transform data with reduced error **1105** in accordance with
7 the present invention is illustrated in Figure 11(b).
8 Transform data 'A' **115** are passed through an inverse
9 transformer **125** to produce high-precision real-domain data
10 **135**, as in Figure 1(b). If it is necessary to pass the
11 real-domain data to an output device **165** which takes
12 integer-valued input, or to generate integer-valued data
13 before manipulation for any other reason, the integer
14 converter and clipper **145** operates before manipulation
15 without affecting the high-precision real-domain data. The
16 manipulator **1115** operates on the real-domain data accepting
17 high-precision data as input and producing high-precision
18 data **1125** as output. This manipulator **1115** performs
19 conceptually the same processing on the data as the
20 manipulation on integers **310** described above in Figure 3,
21 but operates instead on high-precision data. If it is
22 necessary to pass the manipulated real-domain data to an
23 output device **165** which takes integer-valued input, or to
24 generate integer-valued data after manipulation for any
25 other reason, the integer converter and clipper **145** operates
26 after manipulation without affecting the high precision of
27 the processed data.

28 An example of an embodiment of the present invention
29 employing a method for performing inverse transform followed

1 by forward transform steps 1200 is illustrated in Figure
 2 12(a). Transform data 'A' 110 are passed through an inverse
 3 transform 120 to produce high-precision real-domain data
 4 130, as in Figure 1(a). If it is necessary to pass the
 5 real-domain data to an output device 160 which takes
 6 integer-valued input, or to generate integer-valued data for
 7 any other reason, the steps of converting to integers and
 8 clipping to an allowed range 140 are done without affecting
 9 the high-precision real-domain data. The high-precision
 10 data 130 are used as input to the forward transform 1210,
 11 which accepts real-valued data as input. The resulting
 12 transform data 'A3' 1220 are identical to the original
 13 transform data 'A' 110 which were the input to the inverse
 14 transform 120 if the forward transform 1210 is the inverse
 15 of the inverse transform since the errors from rounding and
 16 clipping are not present in the transform data 'A3'. The
 17 forward transform 1210 will produce different transform data
 18 'A3' 1220 when a different forward transform is used. This
 19 allows conversion between transforms without the errors from
 20 rounding and clipping being present in the forward transform
 21 input.

22 An example of an embodiment of the present invention
 23 employing a system with an inverse transformer followed by
 24 forward transformer 1205 is illustrated in Figure 12(b).
 25 Transform data 'A' 115 are passed through an inverse
 26 transformer 125 to produce high-precision real-domain data
 27 135, as in Figure 1(b). If it is necessary to pass the
 28 real-domain data to an output device 165 which takes
 29 integer-valued input, or to generate integer-valued data for

1 any other reason, the integer converter and clipper **145**
 2 operates without affecting the high-precision real-domain
 3 data **135**. The high-precision data **135** are used as input to
 4 the forward transform **1215**, which accepts real-valued data
 5 as input. The resulting transform data 'A3' **1225** are
 6 identical to the original transform data 'A' **115** which were
 7 the input to the inverse transformer **125** if the forward
 8 transformer **1215** implements the inverse of the inverse
 9 transform since the errors from rounding and clipping are
 10 not present in the transform data 'A3'. The forward
 11 transformer **1215** will produce different transform data 'A3'
 12 **1225** when a different forward transformer is used.

13 Figure 13(a) shows a method for performing real-domain
 14 manipulation of transform data with reduced error **1300**. This
 15 method is formed by extending the method **1100** described in
 16 Figure 11(a). In this case, the high-precision data **1120** are
 17 passed as input to a forward transform **1210** which accepts
 18 high-precision data as input, to produce new transform data
 19 'A4' **1310** without rounding and/or clipping errors.

20 Figure 13(b) shows a system for performing real-domain
 21 manipulation of transform data with reduced error **1305**. This
 22 method is formed by extending the system **1105** described in
 23 Figure 11(b). In this case, the high-precision data **1125** are
 24 passed as input to a forward transformer **1215** which accepts
 25 high-precision data as input, to produce new transform data
 26 'A4' **1315** without rounding and/or clipping errors.

27 A method for performing real-domain manipulation of
 28 transform-coded data with reduced error is illustrated in

1 Figure 14(a). Figure 14(a) shows integer transform-coded
 2 data 'B' 210 are dequantized 220 and the output passed
 3 through an inverse transform 120 to produce high-precision
 4 real-domain data 130, as in Figure 2(a). If it is necessary
 5 to pass the real-domain data 130 to an output device 160
 6 which takes integer-valued input, or to generate
 7 integer-valued data 150 before manipulation for any other
 8 reason, the steps of converting to integers and clipping to
 9 an allowed range 140 are done before manipulation without
 10 affecting the high-precision real-domain data 130. The
 11 desired manipulation 1110 of the real-domain data is then
 12 performed using a method which accepts high-precision data
 13 as input and produces high-precision data 1410 as output.
 14 This manipulation 1110 performs conceptually the same
 15 processing on the data as the manipulation on integers 310
 16 described above in Figure 3, but operates instead on
 17 high-precision data. If it is necessary to pass the
 18 manipulated real-domain data to an output device 160 which
 19 takes integer-valued input, or to generate integer-valued
 20 data after manipulation for any other reason, the steps of
 21 converting to integers and clipping to an allowed range 140
 22 are done after manipulation 1110 without affecting the high
 23 precision of the processed data 1410.

24 A system for performing real-domain manipulation of
 25 transform-coded data with reduced error is illustrated in
 26 Figure 14(b). Figure 14(b) shows integer transform-coded
 27 data 'B' 215 input to an inverse quantizer 225 and passed
 28 through an inverse transformer 125 to produce high-precision
 29 real-domain data 135, as in Figure 2(b). If it is necessary

1 to pass the real-domain data **135** to an output device **165**
 2 which takes integer-valued input, or to generate
 3 integer-valued data **155** before manipulation for any other
 4 reason, the integer converter and clipper **145** operates on
 5 the data before manipulation without affecting the
 6 high-precision real-domain data **135**. The desired
 7 manipulation of the real-domain data is then performed using
 8 a manipulator **1115** which accepts high-precision data as
 9 input and produces high-precision data **1415** as output. This
 10 manipulator **1115** performs conceptually the same processing
 11 on the data as the manipulation on integers **310** described
 12 above in Figure 3, but operates instead on high-precision
 13 data. If it is necessary to pass the manipulated
 14 real-domain data to an output device **165** which takes
 15 integer-valued input, or to generate integer-valued data
 16 after manipulation for any other reason, the integer
 17 converter and clipper **145** operates on the non-integer data
 18 **1415** after manipulation **1115** without affecting the high
 19 precision of the processed data **1415**.

20 An example embodiment of a method for real-domain
 21 conversion of transform-coded data **1500** is shown in Figure
 22 15(a). The high-precision data **130** are used as input to the
 23 forward transform **1210**, which accepts real-valued data as
 24 input. The output of the forward transform **1210** is quantized
 25 **1510**. Depending upon the desired system implementation, the
 26 forward transform operation **1210** may employ a different
 27 transform than that used in the inverse transform operation
 28 **120**. For example, the inverse transform **120** may use the
 29 inverse DCT transform whereas the forward transform **1210** may

1 use the Fourier transform. The resulting integer
 2 transform-coded data 'B2' 1520 are identical to the original
 3 integer transform-coded data 'B' 210 which were the input to
 4 the inverse quantize step 220 if the forward transform
 5 operation 1210 is the inverse of the inverse transform
 6 operation 120 and the quantization values used in the
 7 inverse quantization step 220 and the quantization step 1510
 8 are identical. It is noted that the forward transform 1210
 9 will produce different integer transform-coded data 'B2'
 10 when a different forward transform is used. Similarly, use
 11 of different quantization values in the inverse quantization
 12 220 and quantization 1510 also produces different integer
 13 transform-coded data 1520. This method thus allows
 14 conversion between transforms and quantization matrices
 15 without the errors from rounding and clipping being present
 16 in the forward transform 1210 input 130.

17 The conversion between quantization matrices may be for
 18 coarser or finer quantization. For converting data from the
 19 JPEG international standard to the MPEG international
 20 standard, the quantization is likely to be coarser. The
 21 higher quality JPEG independent images are needed during the
 22 editing process. The coarser, more compressible, MPEG
 23 images are used to achieve the desired bandwidth objectives.
 24 On the other hand, in recompressing JPEG images after
 25 significant hand editing, the quantization is likely to be
 26 finer in order to preserve the changes.

27 An example embodiment of a system for real-domain
 28 conversion of transform-coded data 1505 in accordance with
 29 the present invention is shown in Figure 15(b). The

1 high-precision data **135** are used as input to the forward
 2 transformer **1215**, which accepts real-valued data as input.
 3 The output of the forward transformer **1215** is input to the
 4 quantizer **1515**. Depending upon the desired system
 5 implementation, the forward transformer **1215** may produce a
 6 different transform than that used in the inverse
 7 transformer **125**. For example, the inverse transformer **125**
 8 may use the inverse DCT transform whereas the forward
 9 transformer **1215** may use the Fourier transform. The
 10 resulting integer transform-coded data 'B2' **1525** are
 11 identical to the original integer transform-coded data 'B'
 12 **215** which was the input to the inverse quantizer **225** if the
 13 forward transformer **1215** produces the inverse of the inverse
 14 transformer **125** and the quantization values used in the
 15 inverse quantizer **225** and the quantizer **1515** are identical.
 16 It is noted that the forward transformer **1215** will produce
 17 different integer transform-coded data 'B2' when a different
 18 forward transform is produced. Similarly, use of different
 19 quantization values in the inverse quantizer **225** and
 20 quantizer **1515** also produces different integer
 21 transform-coded data **1525**. This system thus allows
 22 conversion between transforms and quantization matrices
 23 without the errors from rounding and clipping being present
 24 in the forward transformer **1215** input **135**.

25 A method for performing real-domain manipulation of
 26 transform-coded data with reduced error **1600** is formed by
 27 extending the method **1400** described in Figure 14(a) as is
 28 illustrated in Figure 16(a). The high-precision data **1410**
 29 are passed as input to a forward transform **1210** which

1 accepts high-precision data as input. The output values from
2 the forward transform are quantized **1510** to produce new
3 transform-coded data 'B3' **1610**.

4 A system for performing real-domain manipulation of
5 transform-coded data with reduced error **1605** is formed by
6 extending the method **1405** described in Figure 14(b) as is
7 illustrated in Figure 16(b). The high-precision data **1415**
8 are passed as input to a forward transformer **1215** which
9 accepts high-precision data as input. The output values from
10 the forward transformer are input to the quantizer **1515** to
11 produce new transform-coded data 'B3' **1615**.

12 An example embodiment of a method for real-domain
13 manipulation of transform-coded data with reduced error **1700**
14 is shown in Figure 17(a). The chosen embodiment is a method
15 for real-domain manipulation of coded images, which are
16 transform-coded using the DCT. Coded data 'C' **710** are
17 decoded by a lossless entropy decode step **720** to produce
18 quantized DCT coefficients. These coefficients are
19 dequantized **730** and passed through an inverse DCT **740** to
20 produce high-precision real-domain data **1710**. If it is
21 necessary to pass the image before manipulation to a display
22 device **758** which takes integer-valued input, or to produce
23 integer-valued data **754** before manipulation for any other
24 reason, the steps of converting to integers and clipping to
25 an allowed range **750** are performed before manipulation **1720**
26 without affecting the high-precision real-domain image data
27 **1710**. The desired manipulation **1720** of the image is then
28 performed using a method which accepts high-precision data
29 as input and produces high-precision data **1730** as output.

1 If it is necessary to pass the manipulated image data to a
 2 display **758** which takes integer-valued input, or to generate
 3 integer-valued image data **1750** after manipulation for any
 4 other reason, the steps of converting to integers and
 5 clipping to an allowed range **1740** are performed after
 6 manipulation **1720** without affecting the high precision of
 7 the processed image data **1730**. The high-precision image
 8 data **1730** are passed as input to a forward DCT **1760** which
 9 accepts high-precision data as input. The output values
 10 from the forward transform **1760** are quantized **780** to produce
 11 new integer DCT coefficients **1770**. These coefficients **1770**
 12 are encoded by a lossless entropy encode step **788** to produce
 13 new coded data 'C2' **1780**. If the forward and inverse
 14 transforms and the manipulation system are sufficiently
 15 accurate so that the error they introduce is less than half
 16 a quantization step, as described in Equation (3) given
 17 above, no error at all is introduced to the DCT
 18 coefficients.

19 An example invention embodiment of a system for
 20 real-domain manipulation of transform-coded data with
 21 reduced error **1705** is shown in Figure 17(b). The chosen
 22 embodiment is to implement a method for real-domain
 23 manipulation of coded images such as JPEG-coded images,
 24 which are transform-coded using the DCT. Coded data 'C' **715**
 25 are decoded by a lossless entropy decoder **725** to produce
 26 quantized DCT coefficients. These coefficients are sent to
 27 a inverse quantizer **735** and then passed through an inverse
 28 DCT-er **745** to produce high-precision real-domain data **1715**.
 29 If it is necessary to pass the image before manipulation to

1 a display device **763** which takes integer-valued input, or to
 2 produce integer-valued data **759** before manipulation for any
 3 other reason, the integer converter and clipper **755** produces
 4 integer-valued data in the allowed range before manipulation
 5 **1725** without affecting the high-precision real-domain image
 6 data **1715**. The manipulator **1725** which performs the desired
 7 manipulation of the image accepts high-precision data as
 8 input and produces high-precision data **1735** as output. If
 9 it is necessary to pass the manipulated image data to a
 10 display **763** which takes integer-valued input, or to generate
 11 integer-valued image data **1755** after manipulation for any
 12 other reason, the optional integer converter and clipper
 13 **1745** produces integer-valued data **1755** after the operation
 14 of the manipulator **1725** without affecting the high precision
 15 of the processed image data **1735**. The high-precision image
 16 data **1735** are passed as input to a forward DCT-er **1765** which
 17 accepts high-precision data as input. The output values
 18 from the forward DCT-er **1765** are sent to the quantizer **785**
 19 to produce new integer DCT coefficients **1775**. These
 20 coefficients **1775** are encoded by a lossless entropy encoder
 21 **793** to produce new coded data 'C2' **1785**. If the forward and
 22 inverse transforms and the manipulation system are
 23 sufficiently accurate so that the error they introduce for
 24 each coefficient is less than half a quantization step, as
 25 described in Equation (3) given above, no additional error
 26 is introduced to the DCT coefficients.

27 A method for performing real-domain manipulations of
 28 transform-coded data with reduced error in multiple steps
 29 **1800**, alternating the manipulation steps with forward

1 transforming and quantizing steps and inverse transform and
2 quantizing steps, is illustrated in Figure 18(a). In general
3 each manipulation may perform another operation on the data.
4 For example for digital studio editing, the first
5 manipulation might color correct the image. The second
6 manipulation might merge the color corrected image with a
7 background using the chroma-keying method. The third
8 manipulation might add highlights to the image. The fourth
9 manipulation might crop the image to convert from the 16:9
10 width to height aspect ratio of movies to the 4:3 aspect
11 ratio of television. For the printing of images the first
12 manipulation might rotate the image 90 degrees to orient the
13 image with the printing direction. The second manipulation
14 might merge several independent images into one composite
15 image. A third manipulation might do a color conversion.

16 As shown in Figure 18(a) transform-coded data 'D0' **910**
17 are dequantized and passed through an inverse transform **920**
18 to produce high-precision real-domain data **1810**. If it is
19 necessary to produce integer-valued data for any reason, the
20 high-precision data **1810** may be converted to integers and
21 clipped to an allowed range **1820** without affecting the high
22 precision of the real-domain data **1810**. The desired
23 manipulation **1110** of the real-domain data is then performed
24 using a method which accepts high-precision data **1810** as
25 input and produces high-precision data **1840** as output. If
26 it is desired to produce an integer-valued of this output
27 data, the high-precision data **1810** may be converted to
28 integers and clipped to an allowed range **1830** without
29 affecting the high precision of the output data. The

1 high-precision output data are passed as input to a forward
 2 transformer and quantizer **1850** to produce new
 3 transform-coded data 'F1' **1860**. The process of inverse
 4 quantizing and inverse transforming, manipulation and
 5 forward transforming and quantizing may be repeated multiple
 6 times with the manipulation **1870** being different upon each
 7 iteration. After multiple steps, final transform-coded data
 8 'Fn' **1880** are produced with rounding and/or clipping errors
 9 reduced or eliminated. Outputs resulting from any of the
 10 convert to integer and clip steps may be sent to an output
 11 device **1890** with or without a multiplexor.

12 An example invention embodiment of a system for
 13 performing real-domain manipulations of transform-coded data
 14 with reduced error in multiple stages **1805**, alternating the
 15 operation of a manipulator with the operation of a forward
 16 transformer and quantizer and the operation of an inverse
 17 quantizer and inverse transformer, is illustrated in Figure
 18 18(b). Transform-coded data 'D0' **1815** are fed to an inverse
 19 quantizer and inverse transformer **1819** to produce
 20 high-precision real-domain data **1823**. If it is necessary to
 21 produce integer-valued data for any reason, the
 22 high-precision data **1823** may be operated on by the integer
 23 converter and clipper **1827** without affecting the high
 24 precision of the real-domain data **1823**. The manipulator
 25 **1115** then operates on the real-domain data **1823** to produce
 26 the desired manipulation and produces high-precision data
 27 **1845** as output. If it is desired to produce integer-values
 28 of this output data, the high-precision data **1845** may be
 29 input to an integer converter and clipper **1835** without

1 affecting the high precision of the output data. The
 2 high-precision output data are passed as input to a forward
 3 transformer and quantizer **1855** to produce new
 4 transform-coded data 'F1' **1865**. The steps of inverse
 5 quantizing and inverse transforming, manipulation and
 6 forward transforming and quantizing may be repeated multiple
 7 times with the manipulator **1875** being different upon each
 8 iteration. After multiple iterations, final transform-coded
 9 data 'Fn' **1885** are produced with real-domain rounding and/or
 10 clipping errors reduced or eliminated. In a particular
 11 embodiment the output from any or all of the integer
 12 converter and clipper modules is fed to the output device
 13 **1895**. For coded image data the output device may be a
 14 display or television set. For coded audio data the output
 15 device may be a player and/or recorder.

16 A numerical example showing how the present invention
 17 solves one aspect of the multi-generation problem is given
 18 in Figure 19(a). A set of transform-domain coefficients
 19 **822**, of which only one (the constant, or DC, term) is
 20 non-zero, are operated on by the inverse transform to
 21 produce an block of real-domain data **824**. In this case the
 22 data consist of 64 values which are all equal to 128.5.
 23 Note that the JPEG level shift of 128 for 8 bit data has
 24 been applied. The forward transform is then applied to
 25 produce new transform-domain coefficients **1910**. It can be
 26 seen that the new transform coefficients **1910** are identical
 27 to the initial transform coefficients **822**. This is due to
 28 the rounding error not being present in the data sent to the
 29 forward DCT.

1 Another numerical example showing how the present
2 invention solves another aspect of the multi-generation
3 problem is given in Figure 19(b). A set of transform-domain
4 coefficients **832**, of which only one (the constant, or DC,
5 term) is non-zero, are operated on by the inverse transform
6 to produce an block of real-domain data **834**. In this case
7 the data consist of 64 values which are all equal to
8 128.875. Note that the JPEG level shift of 128 for 8 bit
9 data has been applied. The forward transform is then applied
10 to produce new transform-domain coefficients **1938**. It can
11 be seen that the new transform coefficients **1938** are
12 identical to the initial transform coefficients **832**. This
13 is due to the truncation error not being present in the data
14 sent to the forward DCT.

15 Having demonstrated how using the high-precision
16 numbers removes the errors caused by real-domain rounding or
17 truncating, we now show how real-domain clipping errors are
18 also avoided. The same numerical starting point and first
19 three steps used in Figure 8(f) are shown in Figure 19(c).
20 The initial quantized DCT coefficients are shown in matrix
21 **874**. All but two of the coefficients are 0; the two
22 non-zero coefficients are the DC coefficient and one
23 high-frequency coefficient. The coefficients after
24 dequantizing are shown in matrix **878**. The quantization
25 matrix used is shown in Figure 8(a). When the inverse DCT
26 is performed on these transform data, real data are produced
27 as shown in matrix **882**. The data shown in matrix **882** have
28 already been rounded to integers but have not been clipped
29 to an allowed range.

1 Figure 19(d) shows the results of the forward DCT
2 applied to the real-domain data to give new rounded
3 transform data **1944**. When quantization is performed, new
4 transform-coded data **1948** are produced. In this example,
5 the changes in the transform data are not large enough to
6 produce changes in the transform-coded data after
7 quantization.

8 Examples of the manipulation between generations
9 include merging two or more transform-coded data sets. For
10 transform-coded image data sets, the merging may be needed
11 because multiple small images need to be collected into one
12 bigger picture. Fan-folded advertising brochures typically
13 are composed of multiple individual pictures. Today's
14 highest end laser printers print more than one page at a
15 time. In such cases, the images generally do not overlap,
16 but may not have the same quantization, positioning relative
17 to the reference grid such as the 8x8 block structure for
18 JPEG DCTs, or orientation. By composing the final picture
19 in the real domain, standard processes can be used for each
20 subimage. Then the composite image can be re-compressed for
21 eventual decompression for on-the-fly printing.

22 Similarly, digital editing can include many special
23 effects requiring several independent manipulations
24 performed serially. Digital movies often use the
25 fade-in/fade-out special effect to perform a smooth
26 transition between two key scenes. Such special effects may
27 follow independent processing of each scene. Thus, multiple
28 generations of decompression and recompression are often
29 needed in the editing to produce the composite of the
30 special effects.

1 Chroma-keying involves two independent video data
2 streams. In one video stream the background has been
3 captured. In the other video stream the foreground, often
4 composed of action involving live actors, has been filmed
5 against a blank single color such as a deep blue or black
6 background. Then the blank pixels in the foreground image
7 are replaced with pixels from the background video. Since
8 the pixels are being mixed at a single-pixel level, the
9 images need to be combined in the real domain. The errors
10 introduced by converting to integers and clipping are highly
11 undesirable for such digital studio applications. These
12 errors are reduced or eliminated by implementing the present
13 invention.

14 Another application example for use of the present
15 invention is in the high-end digital graphics market which
16 uses digital images with sometimes more than 100 megapixels.
17 Glossy advertising brochures and the large photographic
18 trade show booth backdrops are just two examples of the use
19 of such high quality digital imagery. High-quality lossy
20 JPEG compression are sometimes used to keep the transmission
21 and storage costs down. As such images are decompressed and
22 recompressed to allow changes and modifications such as
23 adding highlights, correcting colors, adding or changing
24 text and image cropping, unintentional changes are a problem
25 that is solved with the use of the concepts of the present
26 invention.

27 The above examples for the concepts of the present
28 invention are usual for image and video transform data. The
29 wide use of the Internet has shown the value of JPEG and
30 MPEG compressed image data. When JPEG images are to be

1 printed, then manipulations such as a change of scale or a
2 change of orientation may be required. In addition, a
3 transformation to another color space followed by
4 recompression will allow the print-ready versions of the
5 image to be stored. Use of the present invention overcomes
6 the problem inherent in propagating the errors from the
7 rounding and clipping.

8 Audio coded data also needs to be decompressed, mixed
9 with special sound effects, merged with other audio data,
10 edited and processed in the real domain with reduced errors.
11 Similar implementations are performed for other industrial,
12 commercial, and military applications of digital processing
13 employing a transform and an inverse transform of data
14 representing a phenomenon when the data is stored in the
15 transform domain. These are thus other representative
16 applications wherein use of the present invention is highly
17 advantageous.

18 It is further noted that this invention may also be
19 provided as an apparatus or a computer product. For
20 example, it may be implemented as an article of manufacture
21 comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable
22 program code means embodied therein for causing a computer
23 to perform the methods of the present invention.

24 It is noted that although the description of the
25 invention is made for particular arrangements of steps, the
26 intent and concept of the present invention are suitable and
27 applicable to other arrangements. It will be clear to those
28 skilled in the art that other modifications to the disclosed
29 embodiments can be effected without departing from the

1 spirit and scope of the invention.

1 CLAIMS

2 We claim:

- 3 1. A method for digitally processing transform data
4 representing a phenomenon, the method comprising:
5 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
6 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
7 and
8 manipulating said high-precision numbers to produce an
9 effect.
- 10 2. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
11 converting said high-precision numbers to integers and
12 clipping the integers to an allowed range forming
13 converted data.
- 14 3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the phenomenon is
15 an image.
- 16 4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said effect is
17 the chroma-key merging of two data sets.
- 18 5. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said effect is
19 the color correction of image data.
- 20 6. A method as recited in claim 3, wherein said effect is a
21 90 degree rotation of the image.
- 22 7. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said
23 high-precision numbers are floating point numbers.

- 1 8. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said
2 high-precision numbers are fixed precision numbers
3 including a fractional part.
- 4 9. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of
5 performing employs an inverse discrete cosine
6 transform.
- 7 10. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of
8 performing employs an inverse discrete wavelet
9 transform.
- 10 11. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of
11 performing employs an inverse discrete Fourier
12 transform.
- 13 12. A method for digitally processing transform data in the
14 real domain representing a phenomenon, the method
15 comprising:
16 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
17 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
18 and
19 performing a forward transform of said high-precision
20 numbers.
- 21 13. A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the inverse to
22 said forward transform is different from said inverse
23 transform.
- 24 14. A method as recited in claim 13, wherein said forward
25 transform is a forward discrete cosine transform and
26 said inverse transform is an inverse discrete wavelet
27 transform.

- 1 15. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
2 implementing an inverse quantization of transform-coded
3 data forming the transform data.
- 4 16. A method as recited in claim 15, further comprising
5 converting said high-precision numbers to integers and
6 clipping the integers to an allowed range forming
7 converted data.
- 8 17. A method as recited in claim 15, further comprising
9 entropy decoding coded data to form the transform-coded
10 data
- 11 18. A method as recited in claim 17, wherein said coded data
12 are coded image data.
- 13 19. A method as recited in claim 17, wherein said coded data
14 are coded video data.
- 15 20. A method as recited in claim 18, wherein said coded
16 image data are in a JPEG still image international
17 standard format.
- 18 21. A method as recited in claim 19, wherein said coded
19 video data are in a MPEG motion video international
20 standard format.
- 21 22. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the step of
22 performing employs an inverse discrete cosine
23 transform.
- 24 23. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the step of
25 performing employs an inverse discrete wavelet
26 transform.

1 24. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the step of
2 performing employs an inverse discrete Fourier
3 transform.

4 25. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein said
5 high-precision numbers are fixed precision numbers that
6 include a fractional part.

7 26. A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising
8 manipulating said high-precision numbers to produce an
9 effect.

10 27. A method for digitally processing transform-coded data
11 representing a phenomenon, the method comprising:
12 performing an inverse quantization of the
13 transform-coded data forming transform data;
14 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
15 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
16 performing a forward transform of said high-precision
17 numbers forming forward transformed data; and
18 performing a quantization of said forward transformed
19 data forming quantized data.

20 28. A method as recited in claim 27, further comprising:
21 entropy decoding coded data forming transform-coded
22 data employing entropy decode; and
23 entropy encoding the quantized data employing entropy
24 encode forming encoded data.

25 29. A method as recited in claim 27, further comprising
26 manipulating said high-precision numbers to produce an
27 effect.

- 1 30. A method as recited in claim 27, further comprising
2 converting said high-precision numbers to integers and
3 clipping to an allowed range forming converted data.
- 4 31. A method as recited in claim 29, further comprising
5 alternating manipulating steps with the steps of
6 performing a forward transform, performing a
7 quantization, entropy encoding, entropy decoding,
8 performing an inverse quantization, and performing an
9 inverse transform a desired number of times.
- 10 32. A method as recited in claim 31, wherein said coded data
11 are compressed data, and each step of alternating
12 implements a compression/decompression cycle.
- 13 33. A system employing the method recited in claim 31,
14 wherein each step of alternating recompresses and
15 decompresses coded data to enable an editing operation.
- 16 34. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein said coded data
17 are coded audio data.
- 18 35. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein said coded data
19 are coded electromagnetic environment data.
- 20 36. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein said coded data
21 are coded video data.
- 22 37. A method as recited in claim 28, wherein said coded data
23 is encoded in the JPEG standard format.
- 24 38. A system for digitally processing first level
25 transform-coded data in the real domain representing a
26 phenomenon, the system comprising:

1 a first inverse quantizer to generate transform data
2 from said transform-coded data;

3 a first inverse transformer to produce an inverse
4 transform of said transform data to the real
5 domain forming high-precision numbers;

6 a first forward transformer for forward transforming
7 said high-precision numbers forming forward
8 transformed data; and

9 a first quantizer for quantizing said forward
10 transformed data to form quantized data.

11 39. A system as recited in claim 38, wherein the forward
12 transformer employs a different transform type than a
13 first transform type employed by the inverse
14 transformer.

15 40. A system as recited in claim 38, wherein said forward
16 transformer produces a forward discrete cosine
17 transform and said inverse transformer produces an
18 inverse discrete wavelet transform.

19 41. A system as recited in claim 38, further comprising:
20 a manipulator for manipulating the high-precision
21 numbers to produce an effect.

22 42. A system as recited in claim 38, wherein said inverse
23 quantizer and said quantizer use identical quantization
24 values.

25 43. A system as recited in claim 41, wherein only a subset
26 of the quantized transform data produced different
27 transform-coded data.

1 44. A system as recited in claim 38, wherein said inverse
2 quantizer and said quantizer use at least one different
3 quantization value.

4 45. A system as recited in claim 38, further comprising:
5 an entropy decoder to form the transform-coded data
6 from coded data; and
7 an entropy encoder to encode the quantized data.

8 46. A system for digitally processing transform data
9 representing a phenomenon, the system comprising:
10 an inverse transformer to perform an inverse transform
11 of the transform data to the real domain using
12 high-precision numbers; and
13 a manipulator to manipulate the high-precision numbers
14 to produce an effect.

15 47. A system as recited in claim 46, further comprising a
16 converter to convert said high-precision numbers to
17 integers, and a clipper to clip the integers to an
18 allowed range.

19 48. A system for digitally processing transform-coded data
20 representing a phenomenon, the system comprising:
21 an inverse quantizer to perform an inverse quantization
22 of said transform-coded data to form transform
23 data;
24 an inverse transformer to perform an inverse transform
25 of said transform data to the real domain forming
26 high-precision numbers; and

1 a manipulator for manipulating the high-precision
2 numbers to produce an effect.

3 49. A system as recited in claim 48, further comprising a
4 converter to convert said high-precision numbers to
5 integers, and a clipper to clip the integers to an
6 allowed range.

7 50. A system for digitally processing transform data in the
8 real domain representing a phenomenon, the system
9 comprising:

10 an inverse transformer to produce an inverse transform
11 of the transform data to the real domain to form
12 high-precision numbers; and

13 a forward transformer to forward transform the
14 high-precision numbers.

15 51. A system as recited in claim 50, further comprising:

16 a manipulator to manipulate the high-precision numbers
17 to produce an effect.

18 52. A system as recited in claim 41, wherein the quantized
19 data forms an other level of transform-coded data and
20 further comprising:

21 another inverse quantizer, another inverse transformer,
22 another manipulator, another forward transformer,
23 and another quantizer to perform together a
24 similar function on the other level of
25 transform-coded data as performed on the first
26 level transform-coded data.

- 1 53. A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the effect
2 produced by the first manipulator is a different type
3 of effect from that produced by the other manipulator.
- 4 54. A system as recited in claim 52, wherein the functions
5 of the first inverse quantizer, first inverse
6 transformer, first forward transformer, and first
7 quantizer, and the respective functions of said another
8 inverse quantizer, another inverse transformer, another
9 forward transformer, and another quantizer are each
10 performed by a same module.
- 11 55. A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising
12 providing said converted data for use by an output
13 device.
- 14 56. A method as recited in claim 55, wherein the output
15 device is a display monitor.
- 16 57. A method as recited in claim 55, wherein the output
17 device is a raster display monitor.
- 18 58. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transform
19 data includes information of a spectral analysis.
- 20 59. An article of manufacture comprising a computer usable
21 medium having computer readable program code means
22 embodied therein for digitally processing transform
23 data representing a phenomenon, the computer readable
24 program code means in said article of manufacture
25 comprising computer readable program code means for
26 causing a computer to effect:

1 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
2 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
3 and
4 manipulating said high-precision numbers to produce an
5 effect.

6 60. An article of manufacture as recited in claim 59, the
7 computer readable program code means in said article of
8 manufacture further comprising computer readable
9 program code means for causing a computer to effect
10 converting said high-precision numbers to integers and
11 clipping the integers to an allowed range forming
12 converted data.

13 61. An article of manufacture as recited in claim 59,
14 wherein the phenomenon is an image.

15 62. A computer program product comprising a computer usable
16 medium having computer readable program code means
17 embodied therein for digitally processing transform
18 data in the real domain representing a phenomenon, the
19 computer readable program code means in said computer
20 program product comprising computer readable program
21 code means for causing a computer to effect:

22 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
23 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
24 and

25 performing a forward transform of said high-precision
26 numbers.

1 63. A computer program product as recited in claim 62,
2 wherein the inverse to said forward transform is
3 different from said inverse transform.

4 64. A computer program product as recited in claim 62,
5 wherein said forward transform is a forward discrete
6 cosine transform and said inverse transform is an
7 inverse discrete wavelet transform.

8 65. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly
9 embodying a program of instructions executable by the
10 machine to perform method steps for digitally
11 processing transform-coded data representing a
12 phenomenon, said method steps comprising:
13 performing an inverse quantization of said
14 transform-coded data forming transform data;
15 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
16 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
17 and
18 manipulating said high-precision numbers to produce an
19 effect.

20 66. A computer program product as recited in claim 65, the
21 computer readable program code means in said computer
22 program product further comprising converting said
23 high-precision numbers to integers and clipping the
24 integers to an allowed range forming converted data.

25 67. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly
26 embodying a program of instructions executable by the
27 machine to perform method steps for digitally

- 1 processing transform-coded data representing a
2 phenomenon, said method steps comprising:
3 performing an inverse quantization of the
4 transform-coded data forming transform data;
5 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
6 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
7 performing a forward transform of said high-precision
8 numbers forming forward transform data; and
9 performing a quantization of said forward transformed
10 data forming quantized data.
- 11 68. A program storage device readable by machine as recited
12 in claim 67, said method steps further comprising
13 manipulating said high-precision numbers to produce an
14 effect.
- 15 69. A program storage device readable by machine as recited
16 in claim 67, said method steps further comprising
17 converting said high-precision numbers to integers and
18 clipping to an allowed range forming converted data.
- 19 70. A program storage device readable by machine as recited
20 in claim 67, said method steps further comprising:
21 entropy decoding coded data forming transform-coded
22 data employing entropy decode; and
23 entropy encoding the quantized data employing lossless
24 entropy encode forming encoded data.
- 25 71. A program storage device readable by machine as recited
26 in claim 70, said method steps further comprising
27 alternating said manipulating steps with said steps of

1 performing a forward transform, performing a
2 quantization, entropy encoding, entropy decoding,
3 performing an inverse quantization, and performing an
4 inverse transform a desired number of times.

5 72. A program storage device readable by machine as recited
6 in claim 71, wherein said coded data are compressed
7 data, and each step of alternating implements a
8 compression/decompression cycle.

9 73. A program storage device readable by machine as recited
10 in claim 70, wherein the phenomenon is image data
11 encoded in the JPEG standard format.

12 74. A method for digitally processing transform data in the
13 real domain representing a phenomenon, the method
14 comprising:
15 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
16 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
17 converting the high-precision numbers to integers which
18 include out of range data; and
19 performing a forward transform of the integers forming
20 forward transformed data.

21 75. A method as recited in claim 74, further comprising
22 manipulating the integers to produce an effect.

23 76. A method as recited in claim 74, further comprising:
24 performing an inverse quantization of transform-coded
25 data to form the transform data; and
26 performing a quantization of said forward transformed
27 data forming quantized data.

1 77. A method as recited in claim 74, further comprising
2 clipping the integers to an allowed range forming
3 converted data.

4 78. A method as recited in claim 76, further comprising
5 alternating manipulating steps with the steps of
6 performing a forward transform, performing a
7 quantization, performing an inverse quantization, and
8 performing an inverse transform a desired number of
9 times.

10 79. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly
11 embodying a program of instructions executable by the
12 machine to perform method steps for digitally
13 processing transform data in the real domain
14 representing a phenomenon, said method steps
15 comprising:
16 performing an inverse transform of said transform data
17 to the real domain forming high-precision numbers;
18 converting the high-precision numbers to integers which
19 include out of range data; and
20 performing a forward transform of the integers forming
21 forward transformed data.

22 80. A program storage device readable by machine, as recited
23 in claim 79, further comprising manipulating the
24 integers to produce an effect.

25 81. A program storage device readable by machine, as recited
26 in claim 79, further comprising performing an inverse
27 quantization of transform-coded data to form the
28 transform data.

1 82. A program storage device readable by machine, as recited
2 in claim 79, further comprising performing a
3 quantization of said forward transformed data forming
4 quantized data.

5 83. A program storage device readable by machine, as recited
6 in claim 79, further comprising clipping the integers
7 to an allowed range forming converted data.

8 84. A method as recited in claim 17, wherein said coded data
9 are coded audio data.

10

1 **REDUCED-ERROR PROCESSING OF TRANSFORMED DIGITAL DATA**

2 **ABSTRACT**

3 This invention solves problems due to employing error
4 degraded data in digital processing. It particularly solves
5 multi-generation problems wherein transform data degrade
6 during each inverse transform and forward transform cycle
7 even without any processing due to the rounding and clipping
8 errors. It provides methods, systems and devices for
9 reduced-error processing of transform-coded data. After
10 inverse transformation of transform data, high-precision
11 numbers are manipulated. The converting to integers and
12 clipping to an allowed range steps are executed at any stage
13 in the manipulation to obtain integer representation of the
14 inverse transformed data such as for displaying of the data.
15 However, further processing including forward transforming
16 back to the transform domain is executed on the
17 high-precision numbers. Thus, the rounding and clipping
18 errors are not present in the processed data. Although
19 advantageous to many applications employing digital
20 transformed data, the invention is particularly advantageous
21 for use in digital studios during editing of MPEG-coded,
22 JPEG-coded and wavelet-coded video and audio data.

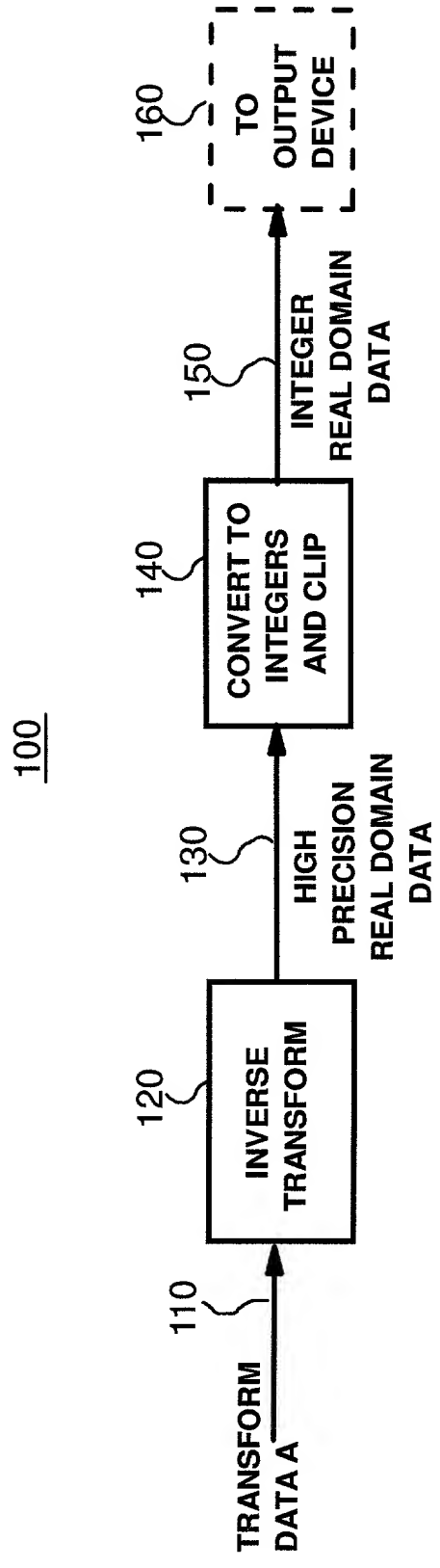


FIG. 1(a)

105

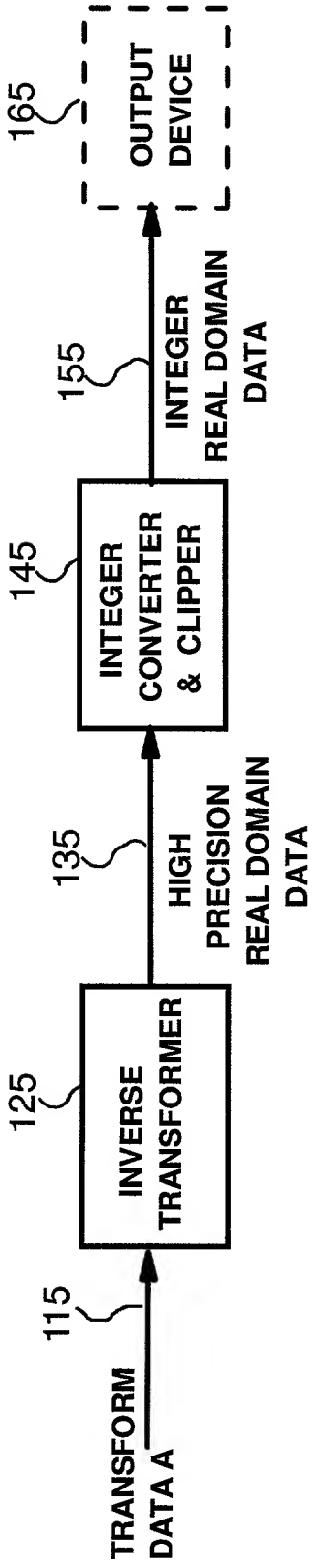


FIG. 1(b)

200

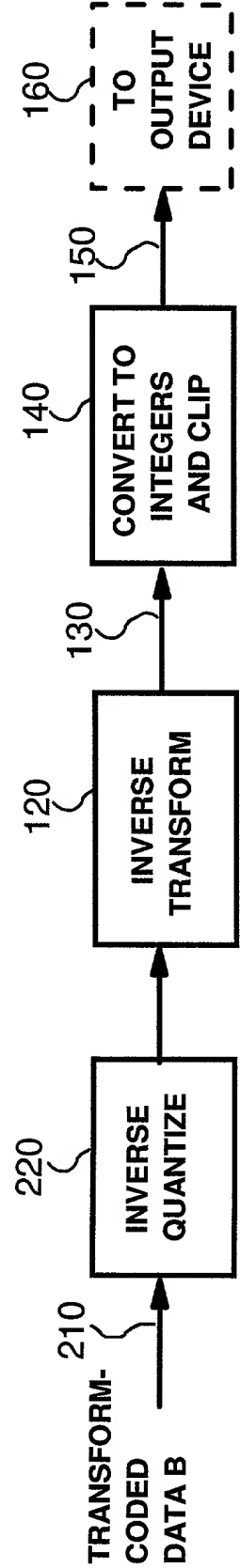


FIG. 2(a)

205

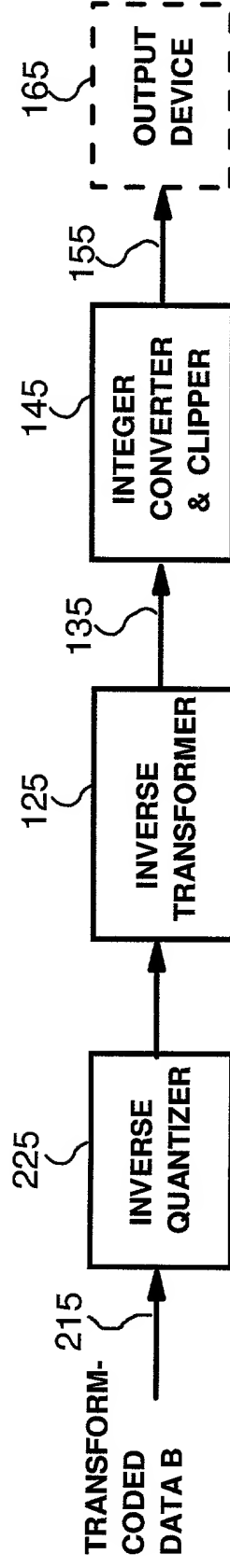


FIG. 2(b)

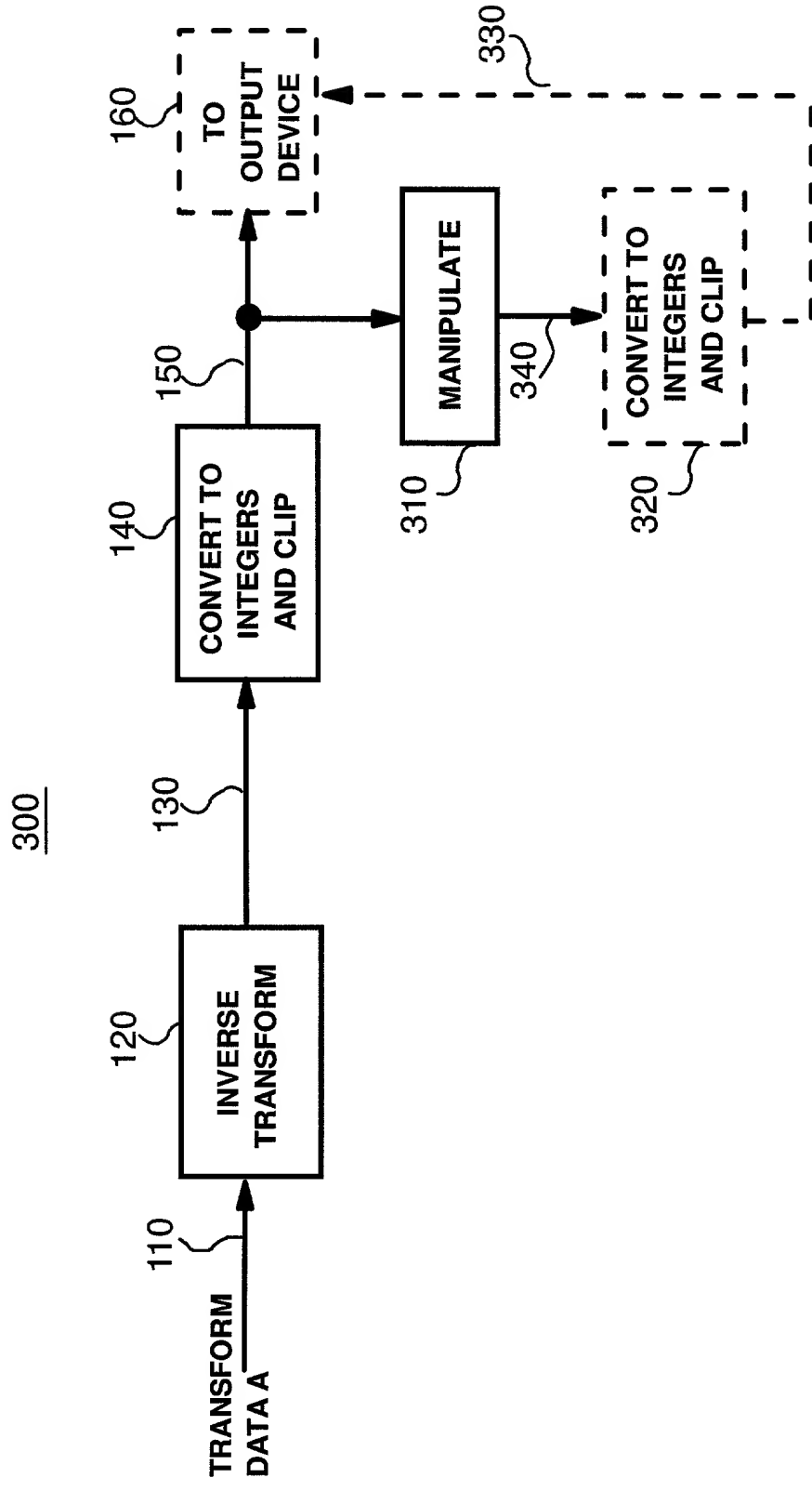


FIG. 3

400

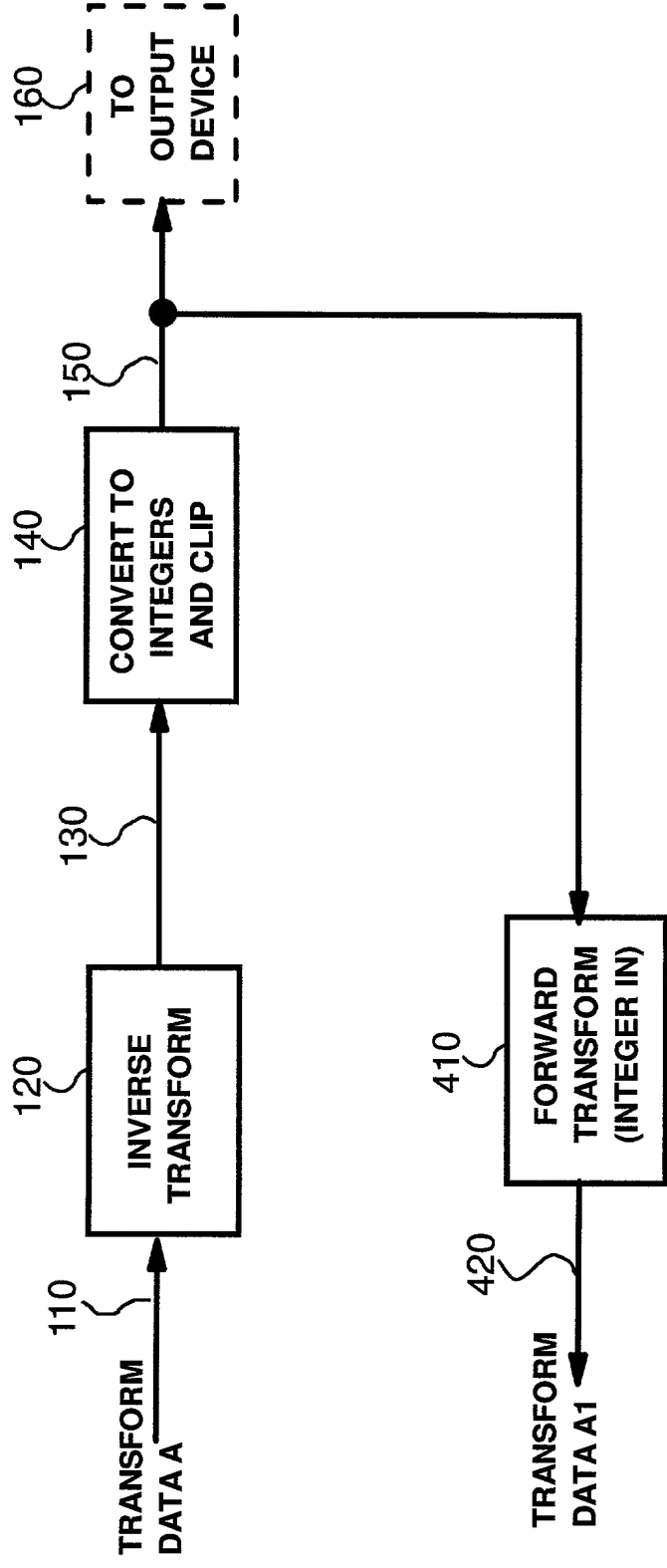


FIG. 4

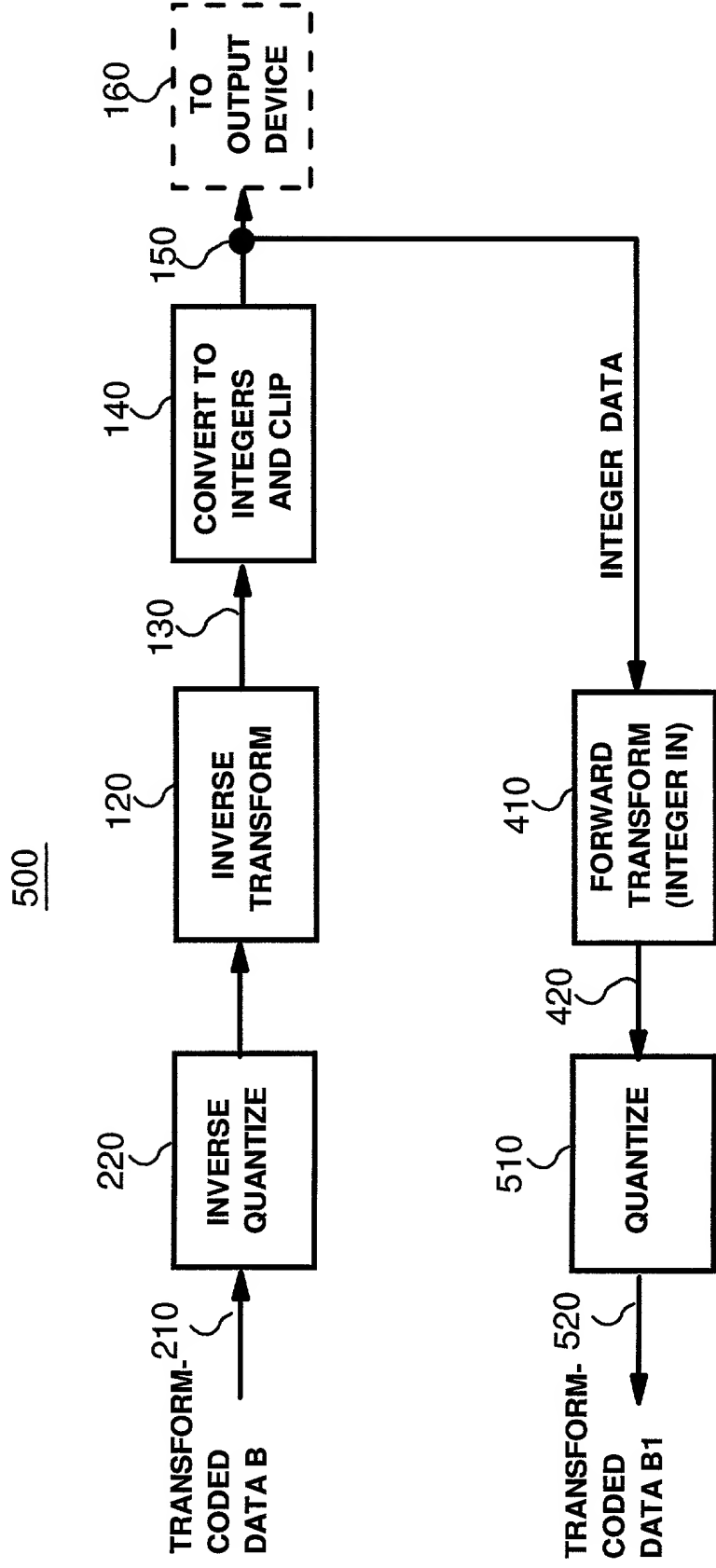


FIG. 5

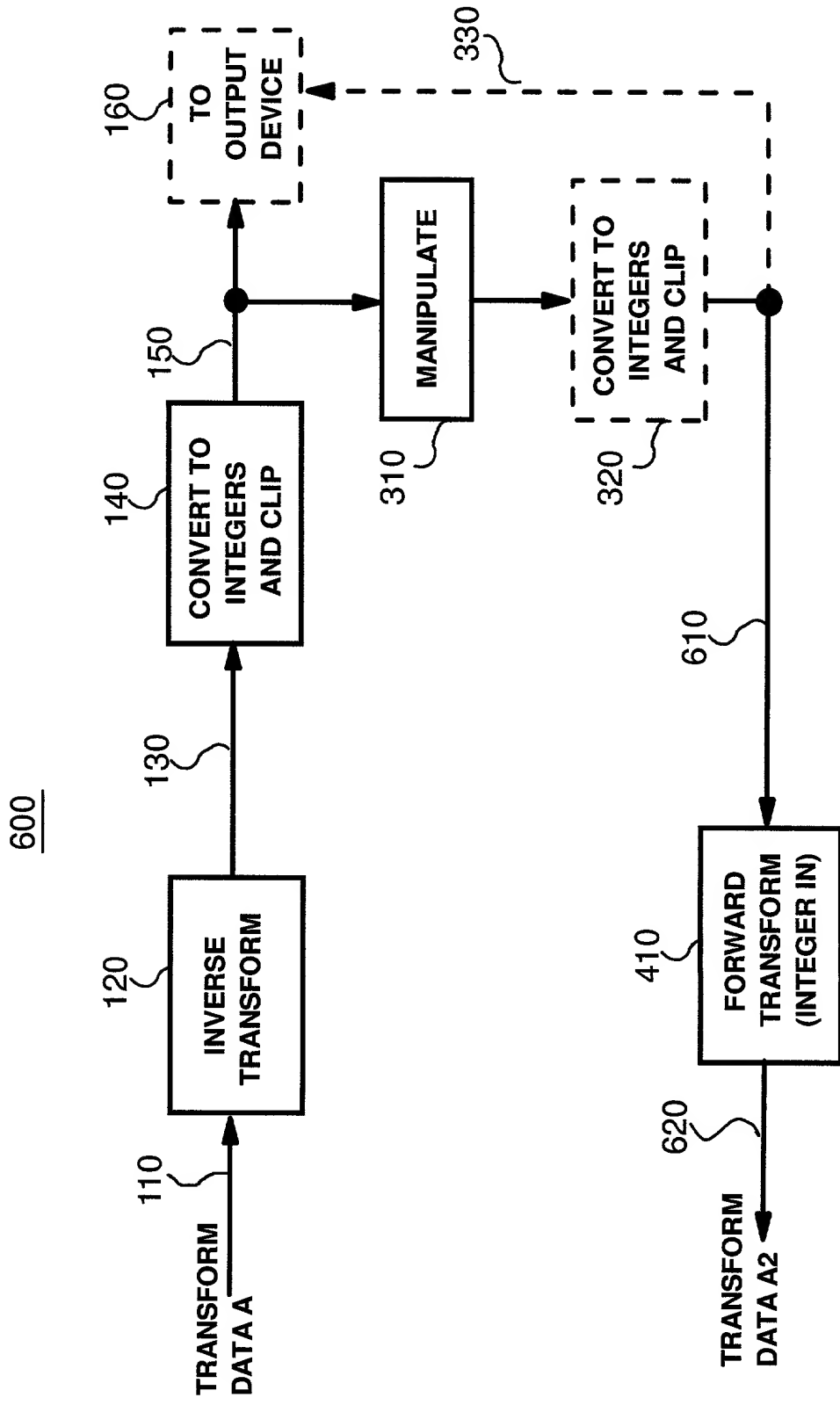


FIG. 6

700

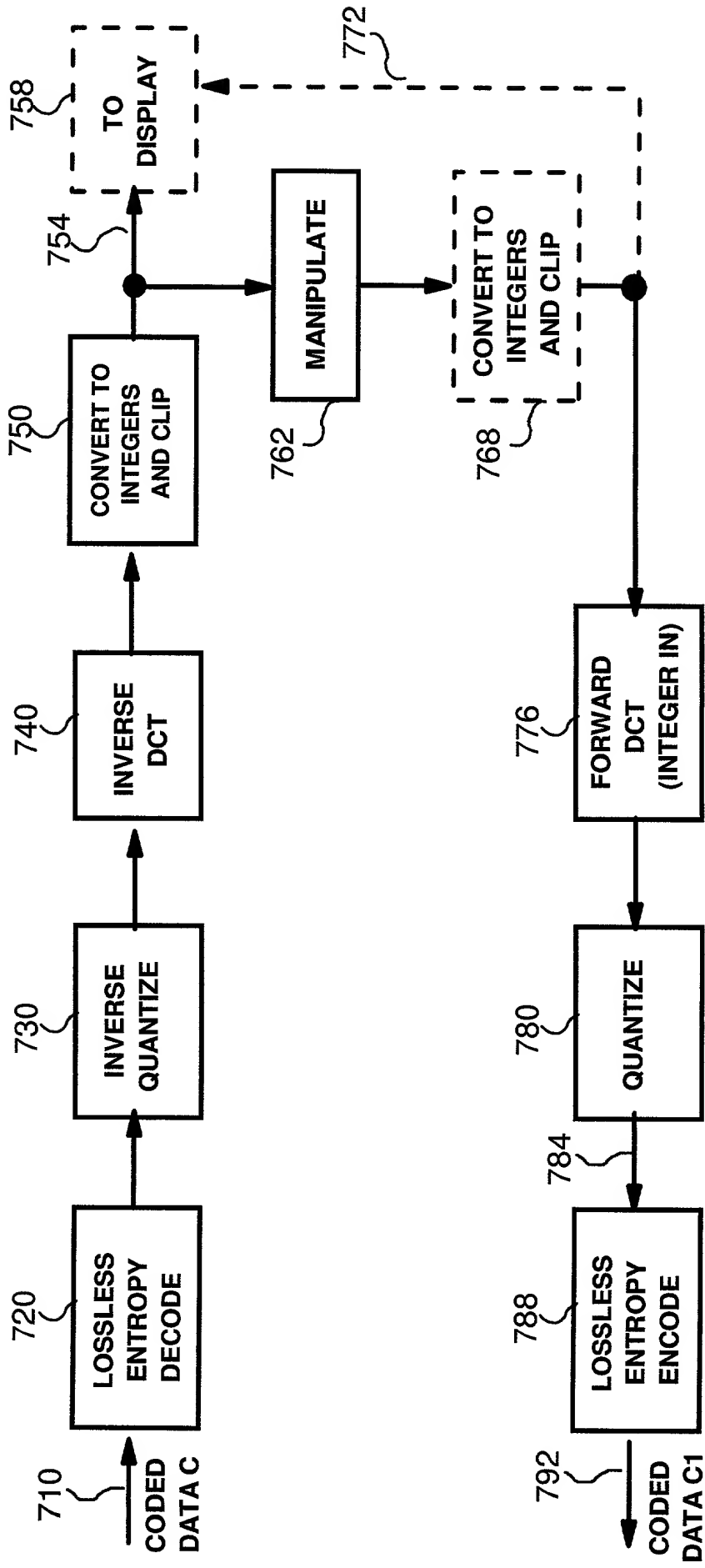


FIG. 7(a)

705

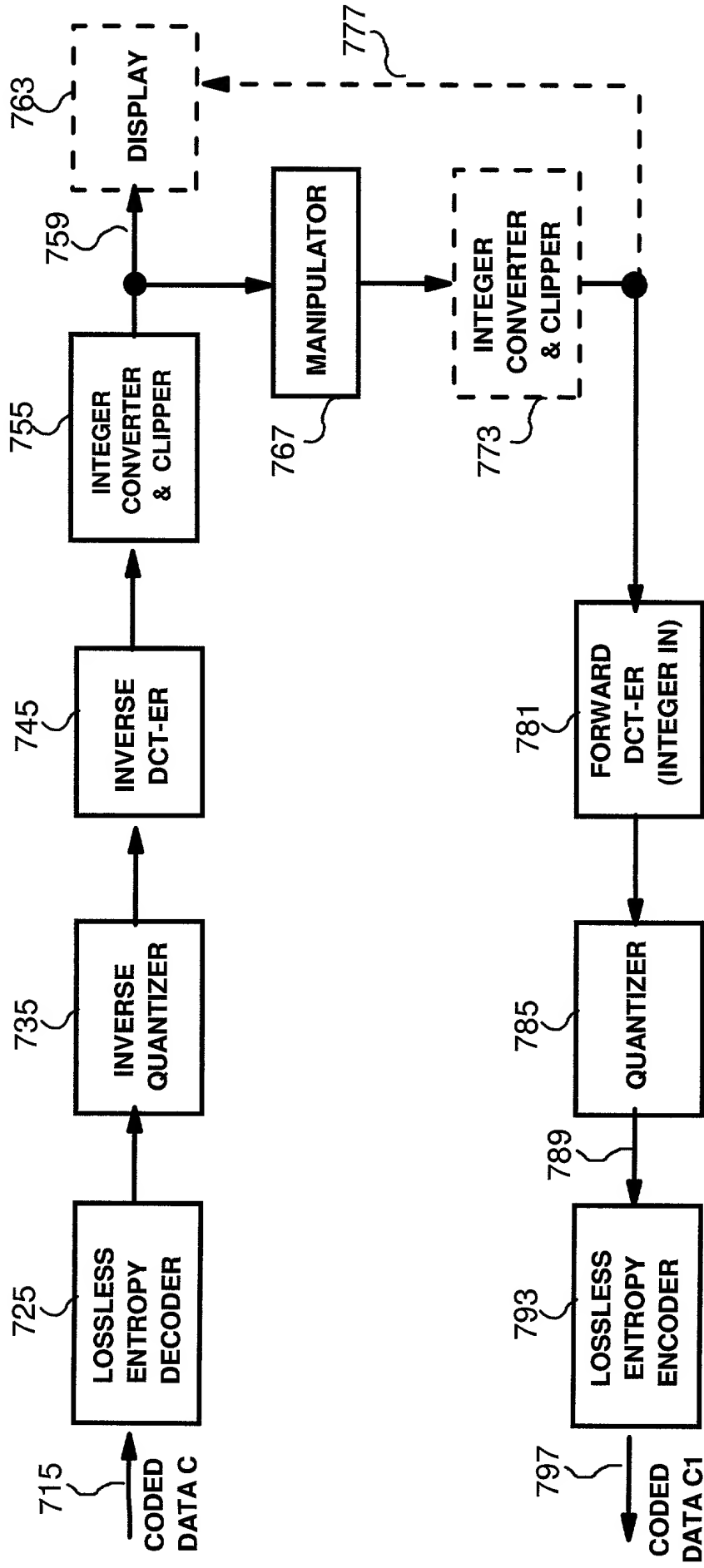


FIG. 7(b)

800

804

16	11	10	16	24	40	51	61
12	12	14	19	26	58	60	55
14	13	16	24	40	57	69	56
14	17	22	29	51	87	80	62
18	22	37	56	68	109	103	77
24	35	55	63	81	104	113	92
49	64	78	87	103	121	120	101
72	92	95	98	112	100	103	99

FIG. 8(a)

810

814

17	18	24	47	99	99	99	99
18	21	26	66	99	99	99	99
24	26	56	99	99	99	99	99
47	66	99	99	99	99	99	99
99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99

FIG. 8(b)

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

FIG. 8(c)

830

$$832 \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

INVERSE DCT

834

128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875
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 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875 128.875

TRUNCATE TO INTEGERS

836

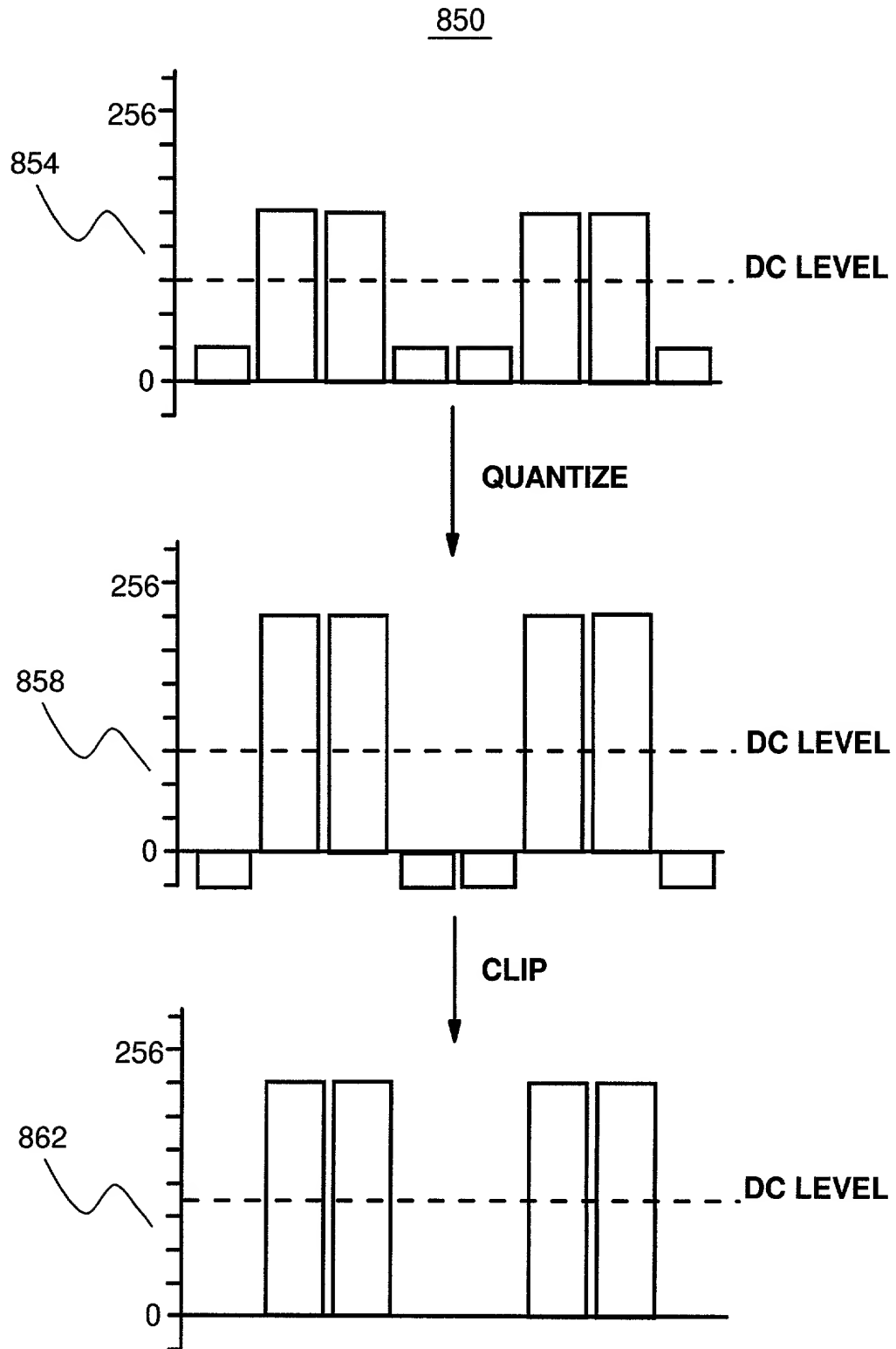
128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128
 128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128
 128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128
 128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128
 128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128
 128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128
 128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128
 128 128 128 128 128 128 128 128

FORWARD DCT

838

$$838 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

FIG. 8(d)

**FIG. 8(e)**

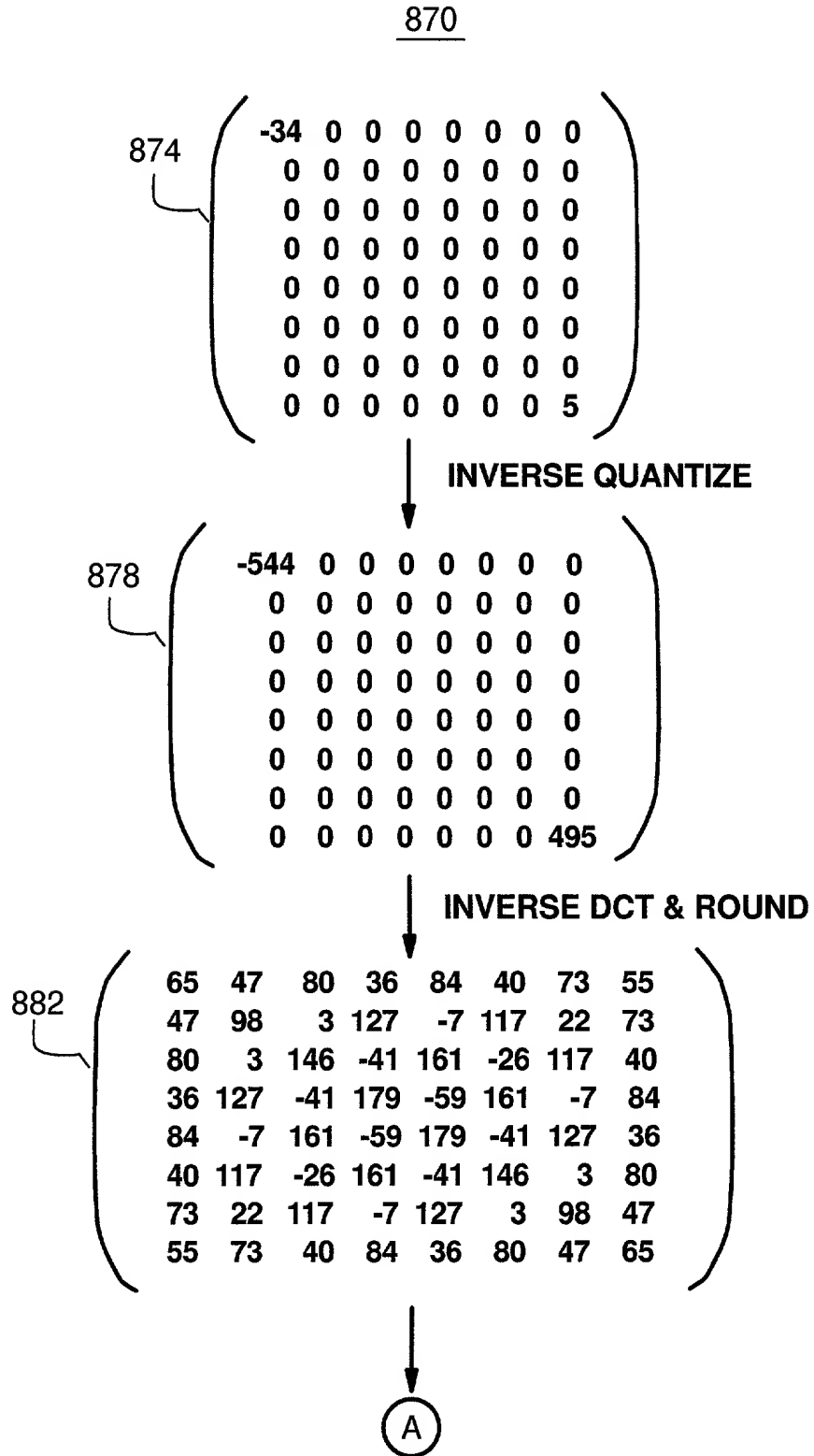


FIG. 8(f)

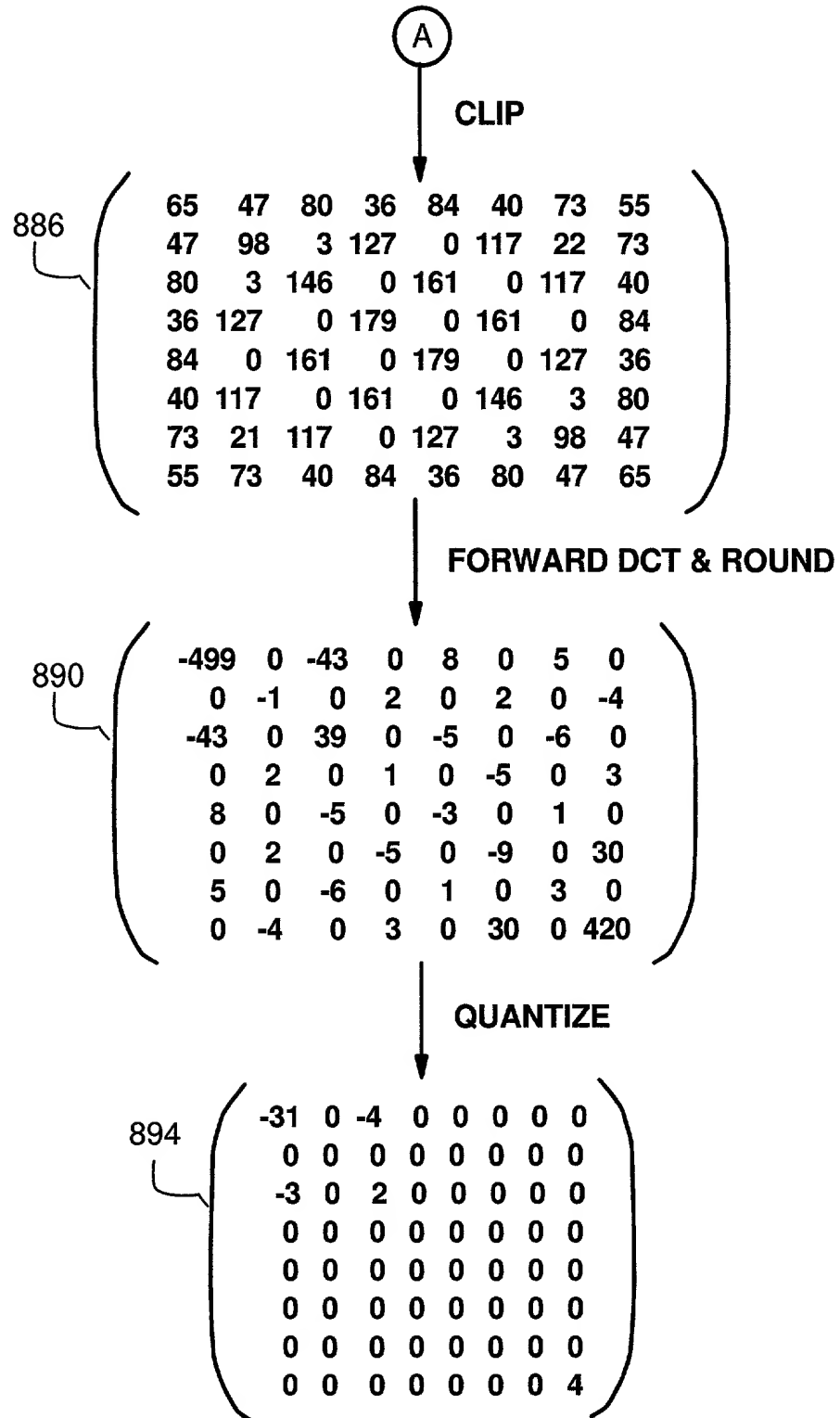


FIG. 8(g)

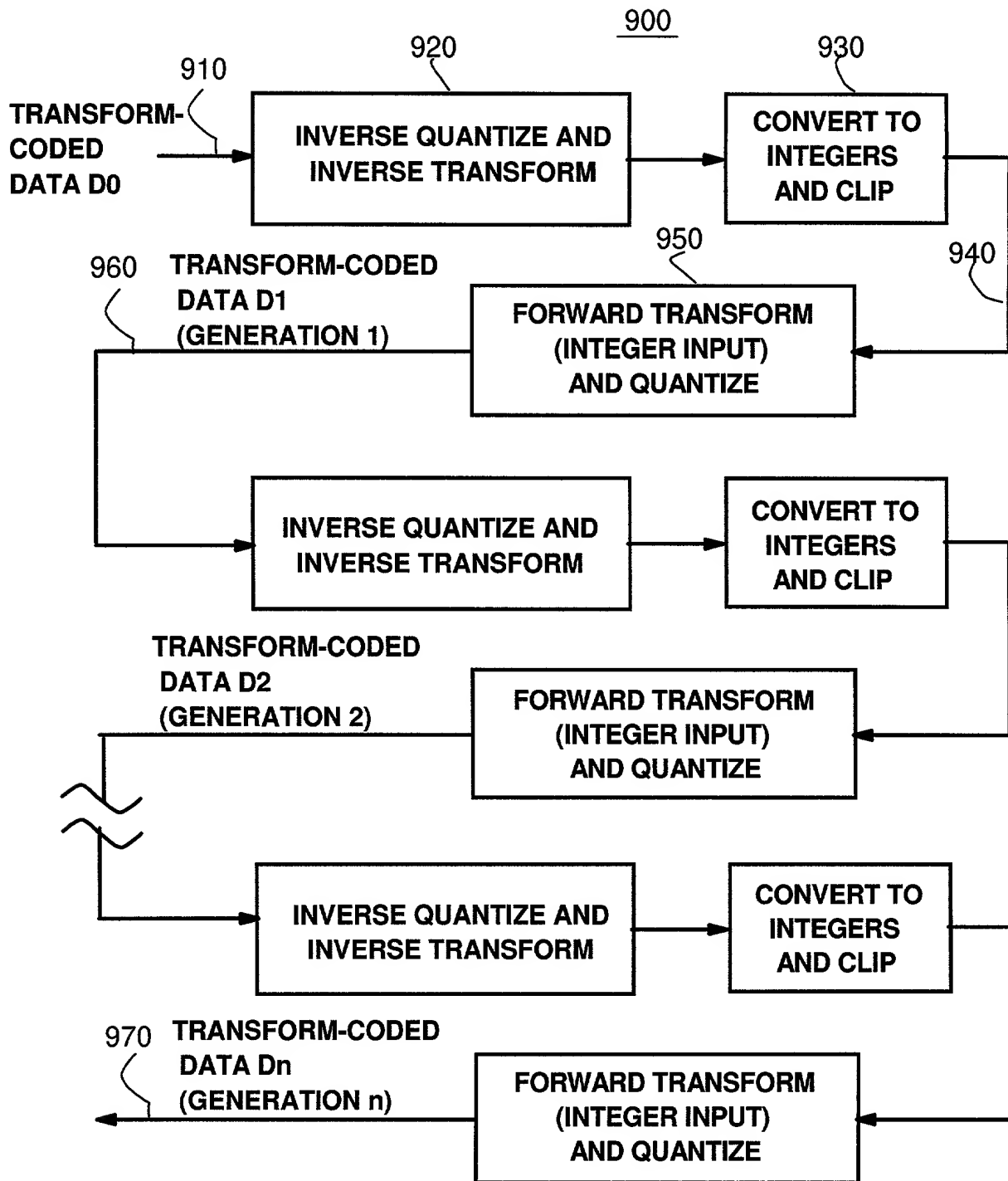
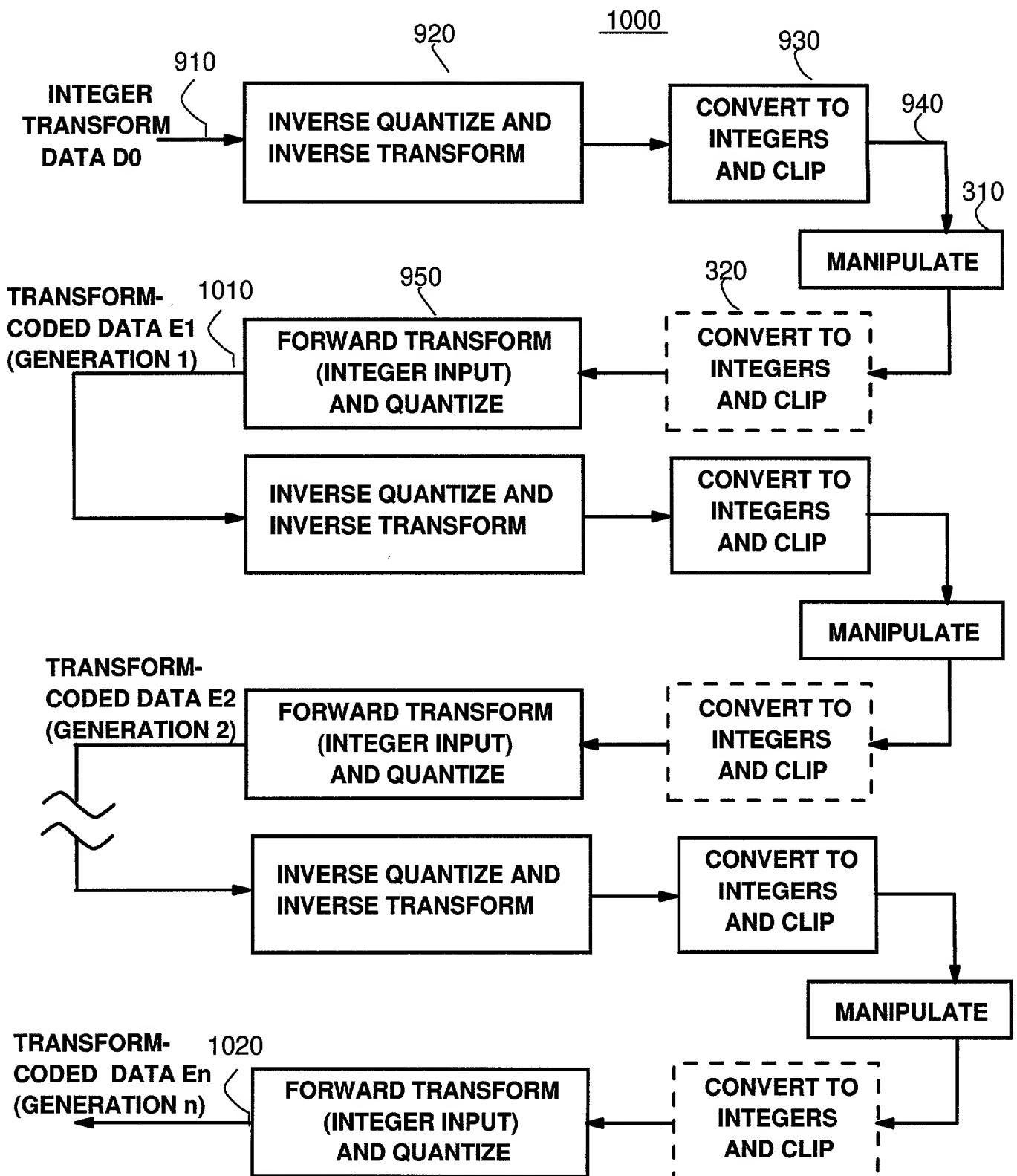


FIG. 9

**FIG. 10**

1100

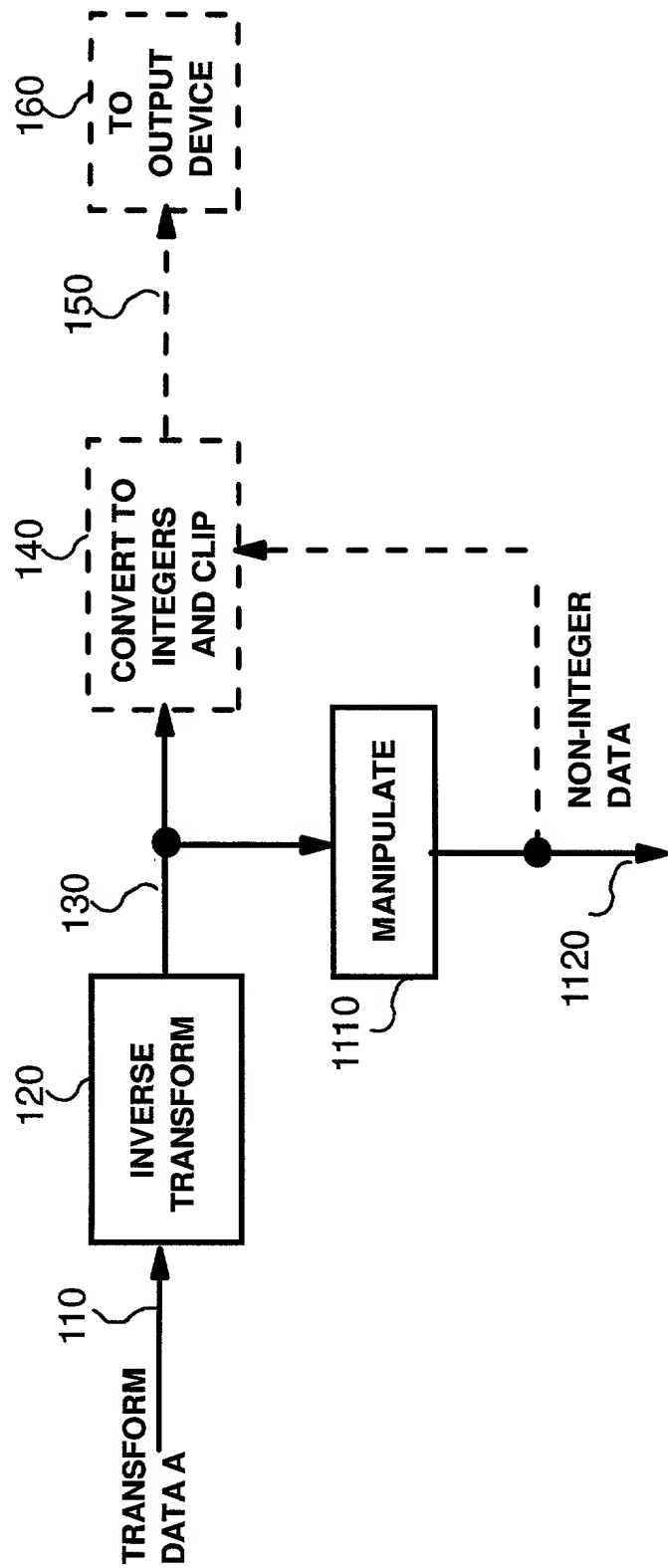


FIG. 11(a)

1105

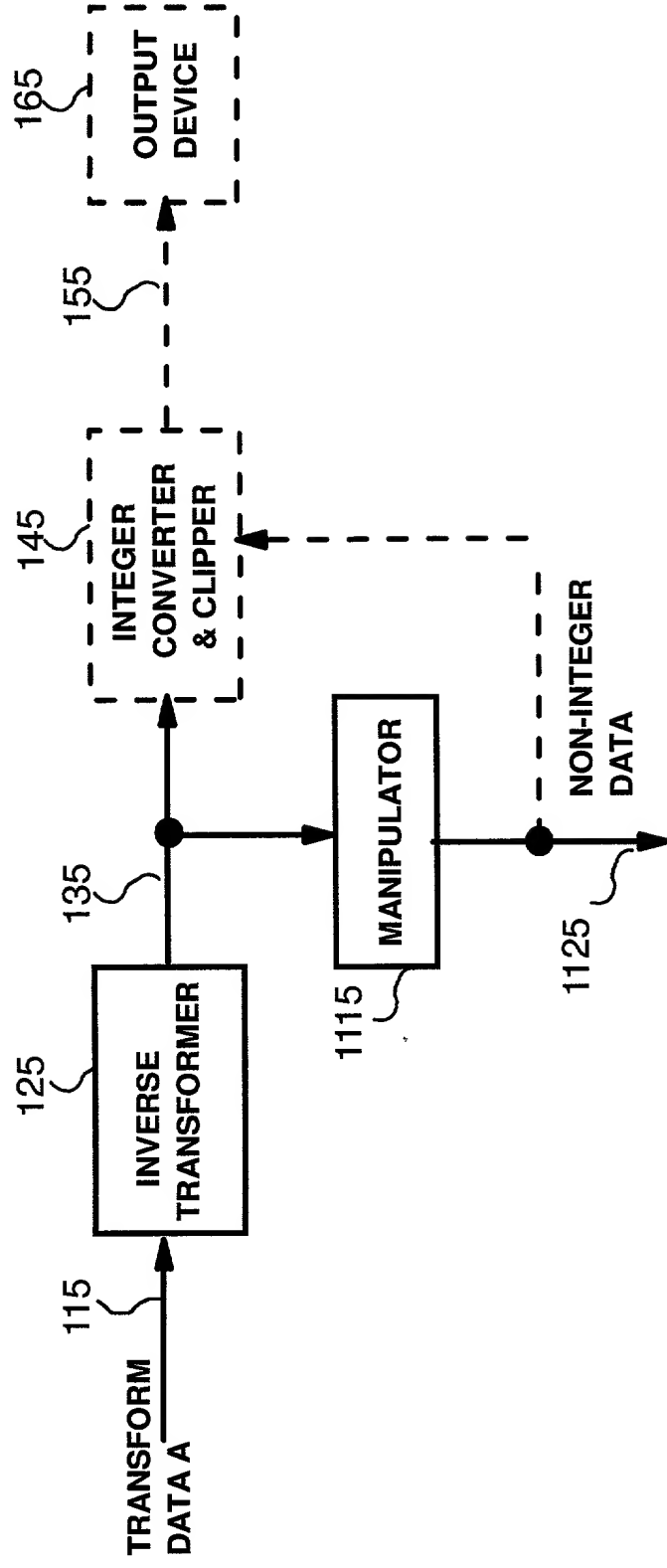


FIG. 11(b)

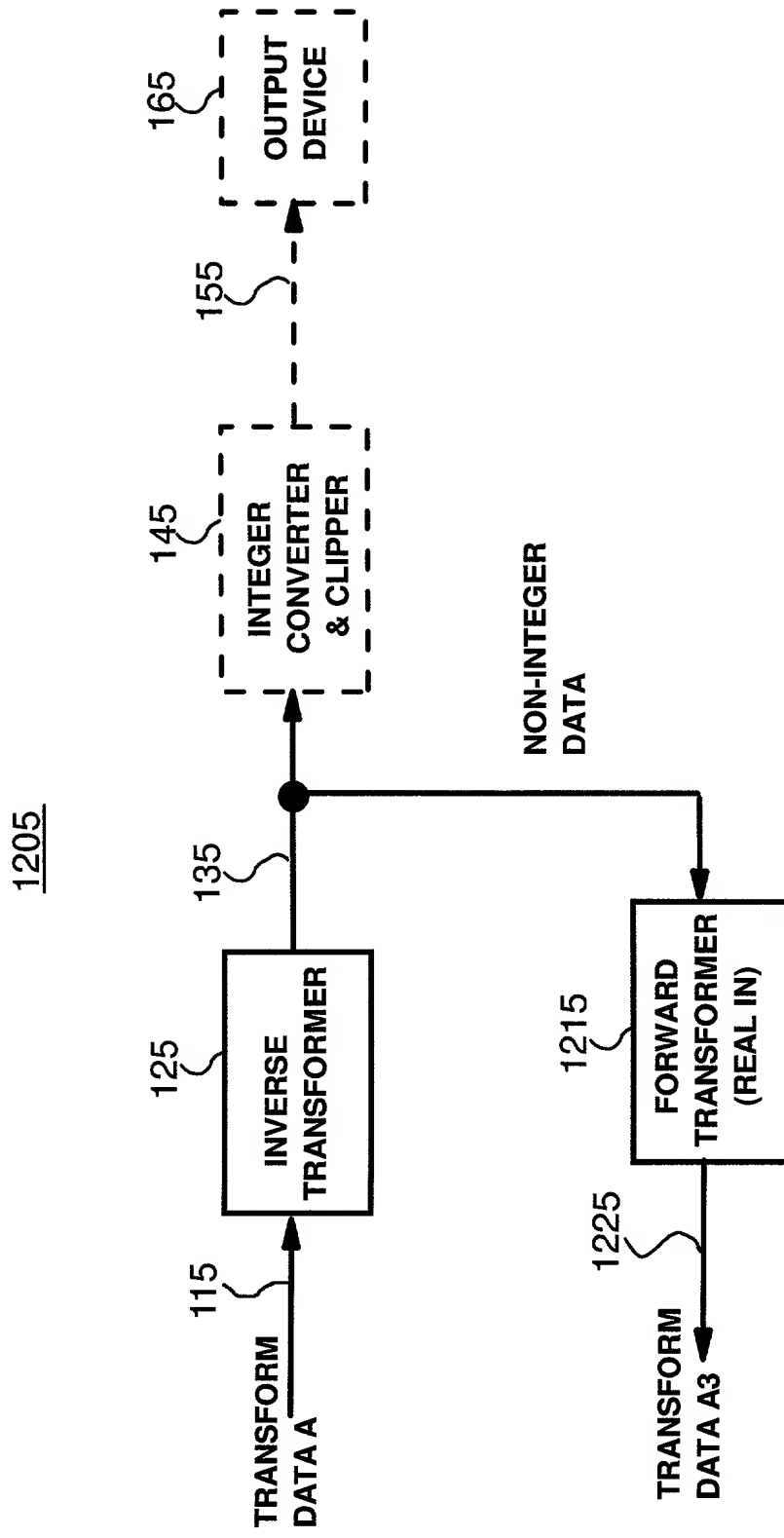


FIG. 12(b)

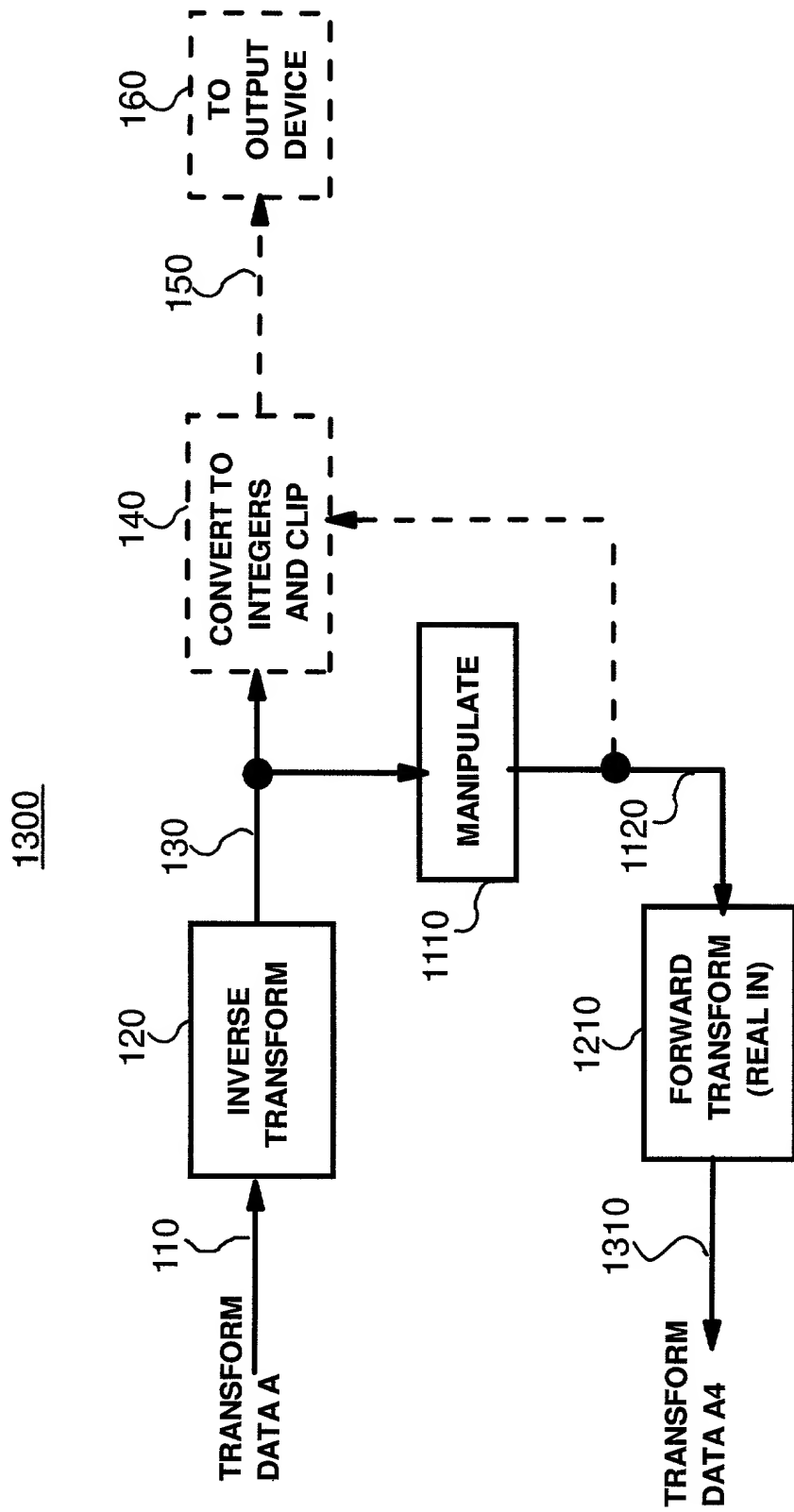


FIG. 13(a)

1305

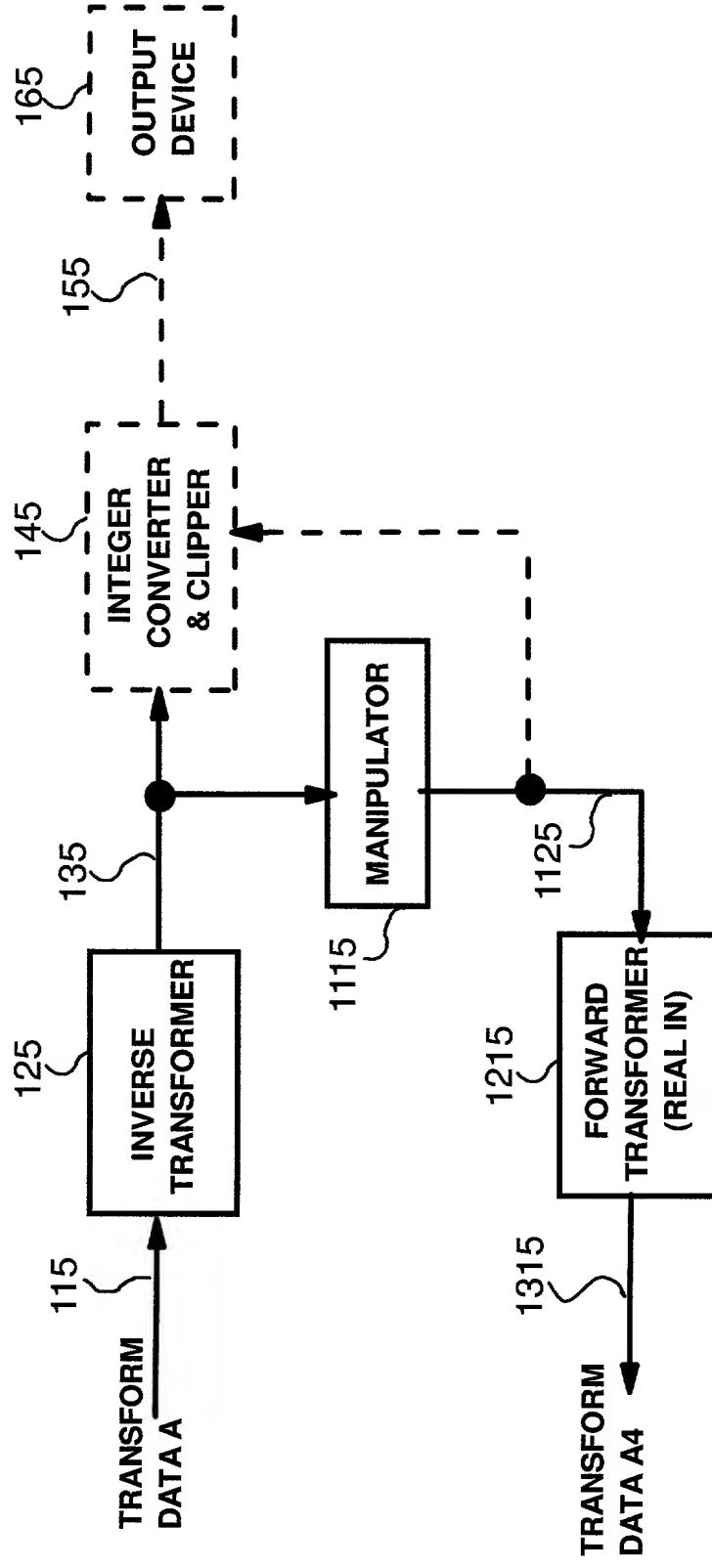


FIG. 13(b)

1400

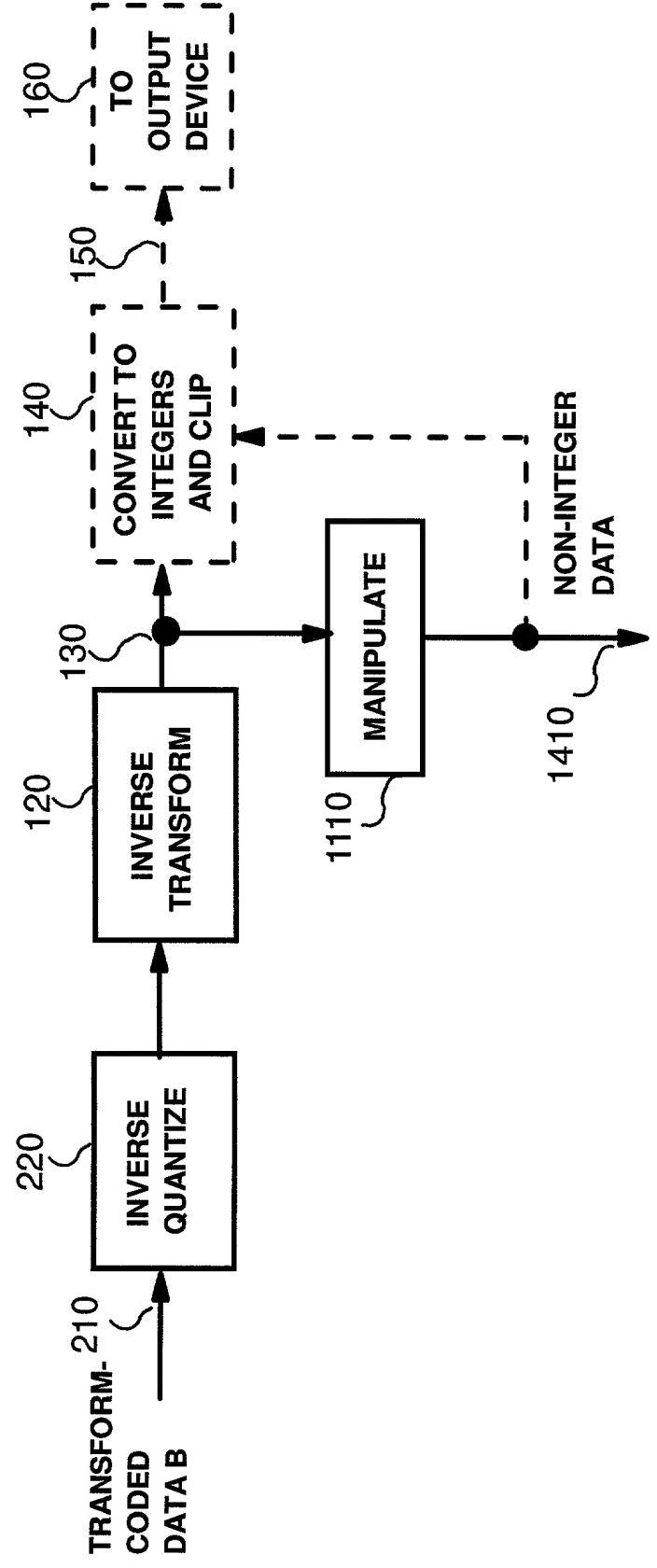


FIG. 14(a)

1405

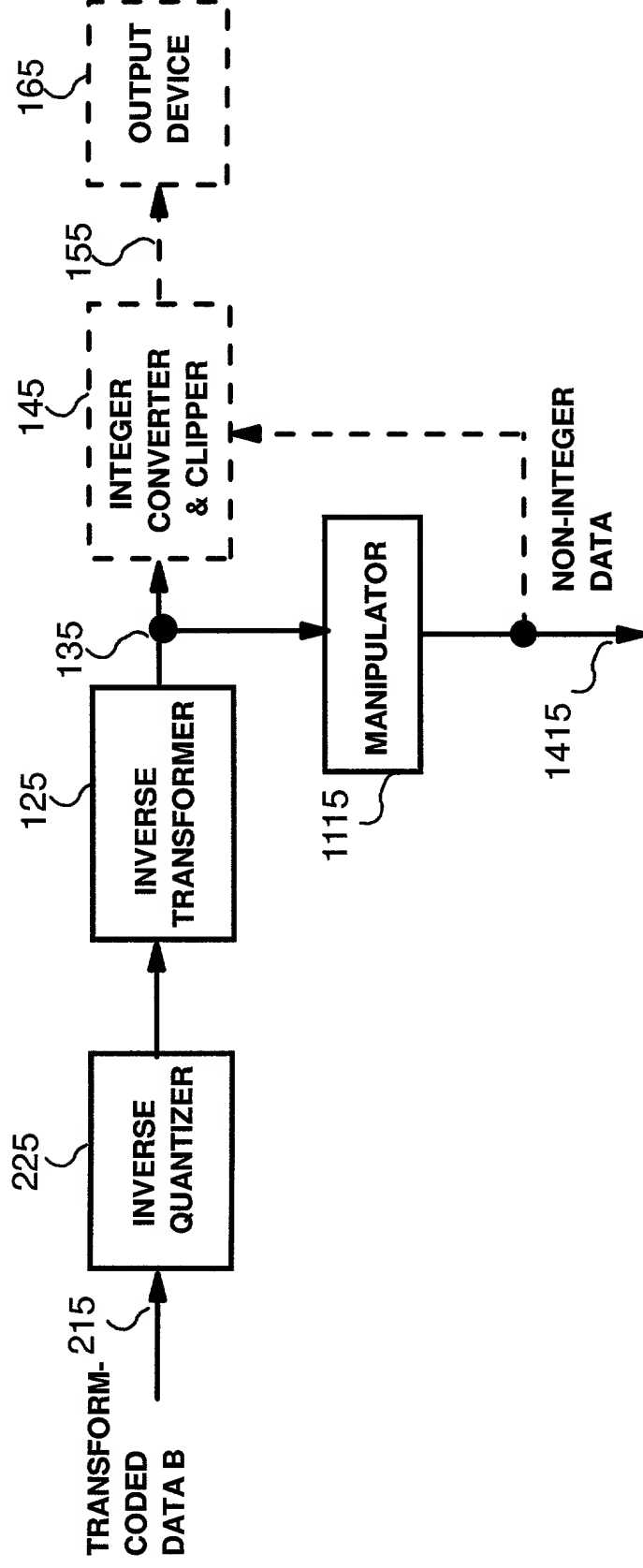


FIG. 14(b)

1500

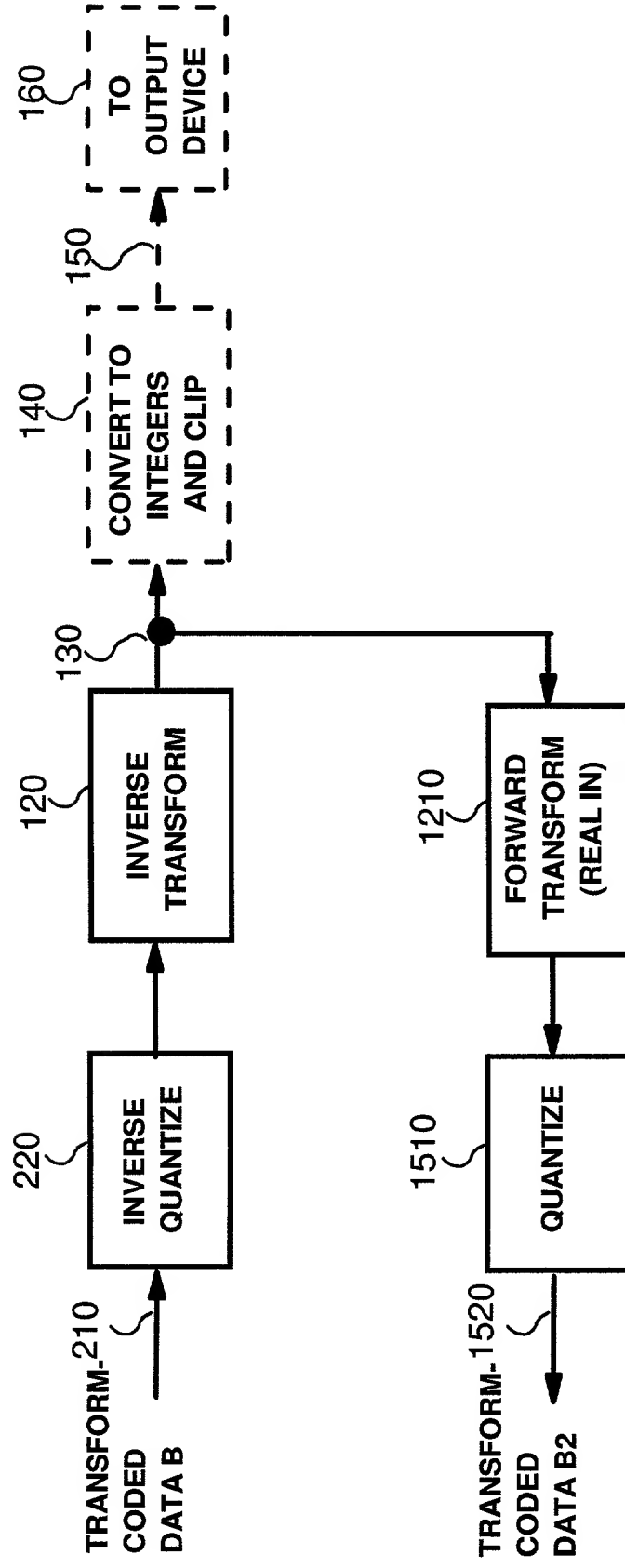


FIG. 15(a)

1505

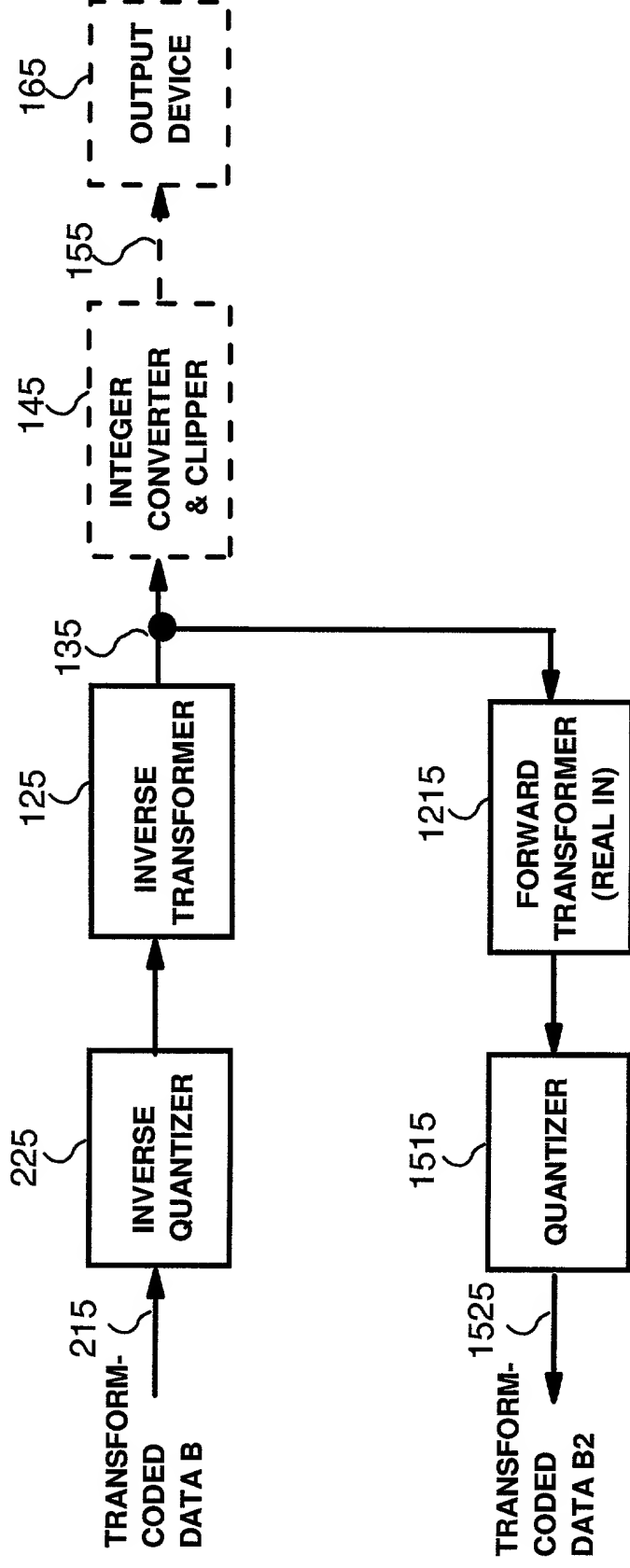


FIG. 15(b)

1600

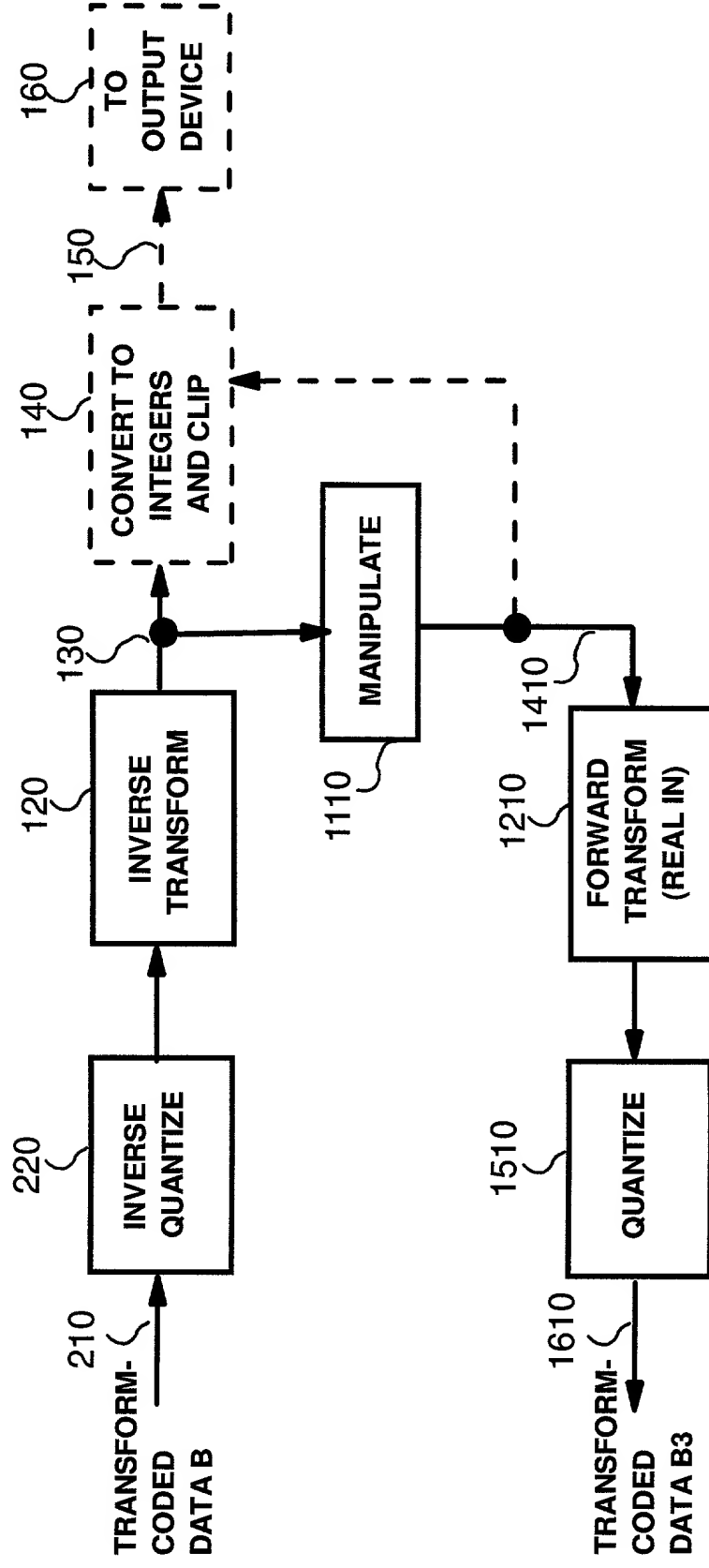


FIG. 16(a)

1605

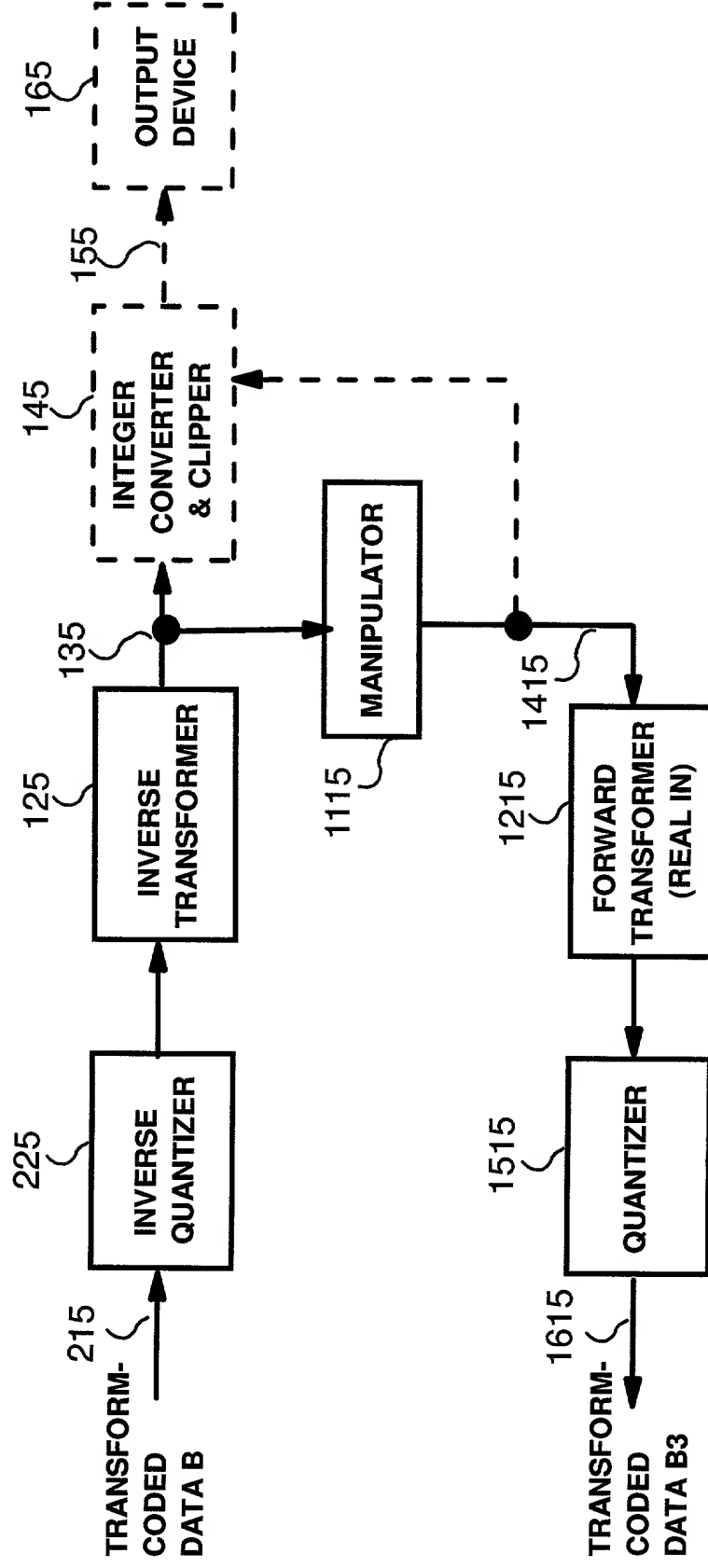


FIG. 16(b)

1700

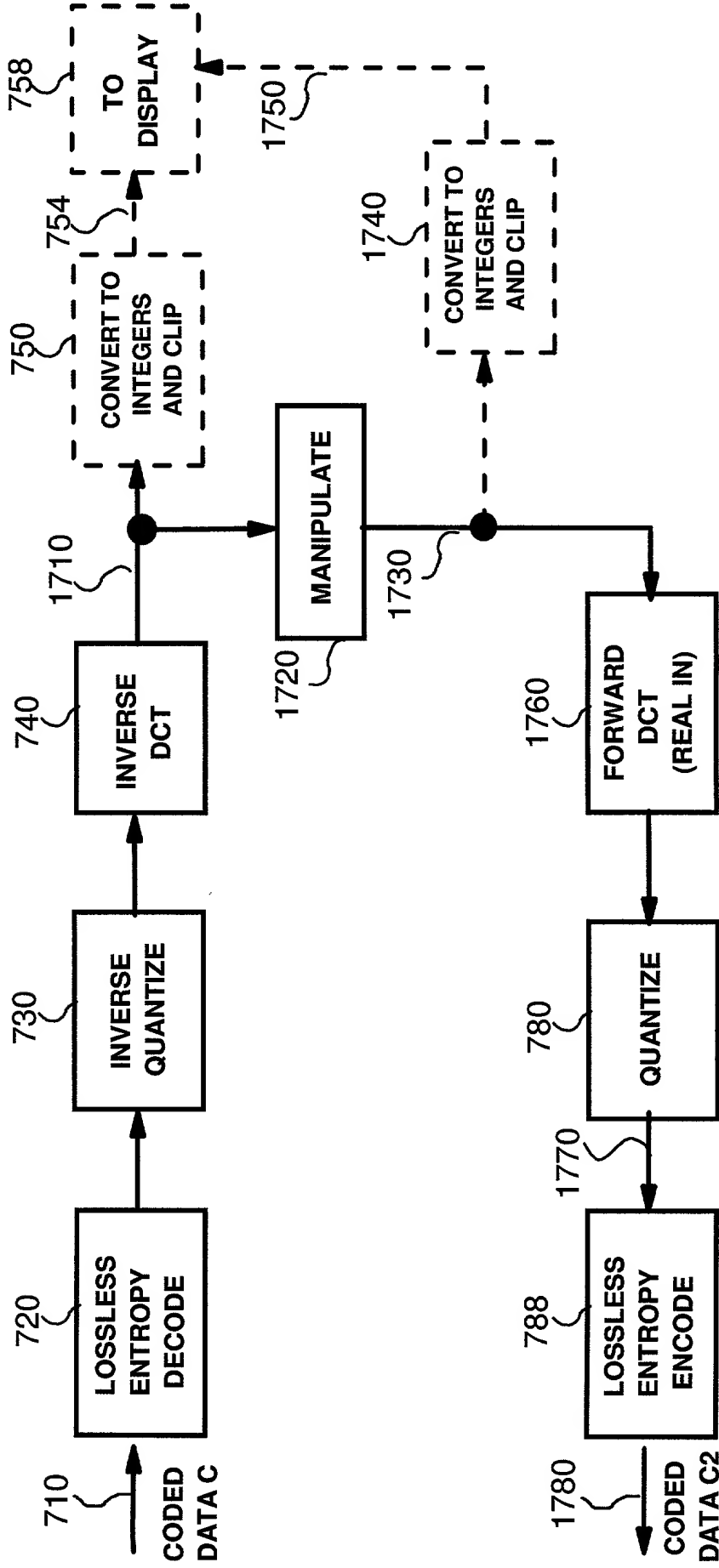


FIG. 17(a)

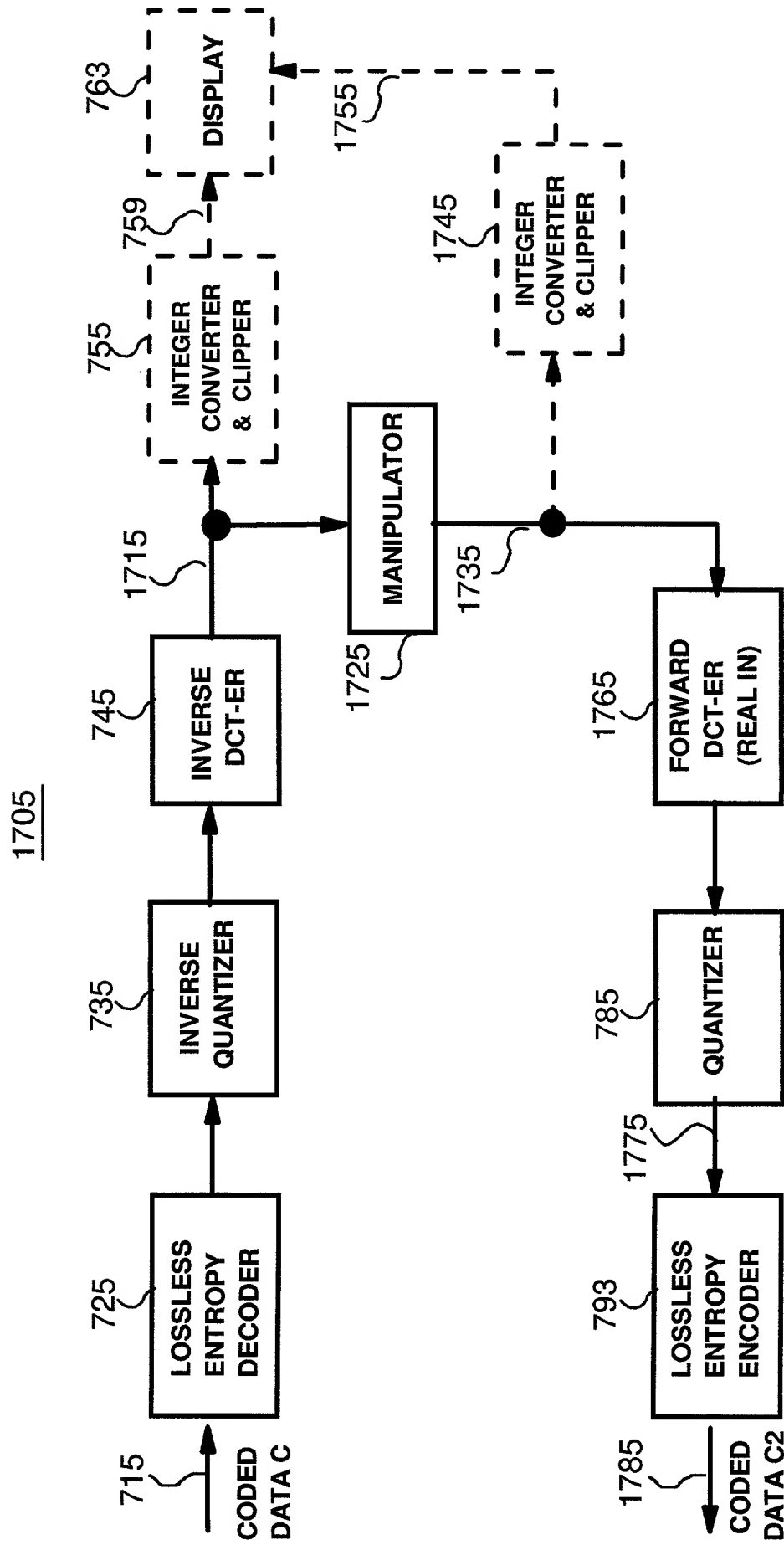


FIG. 17(b)

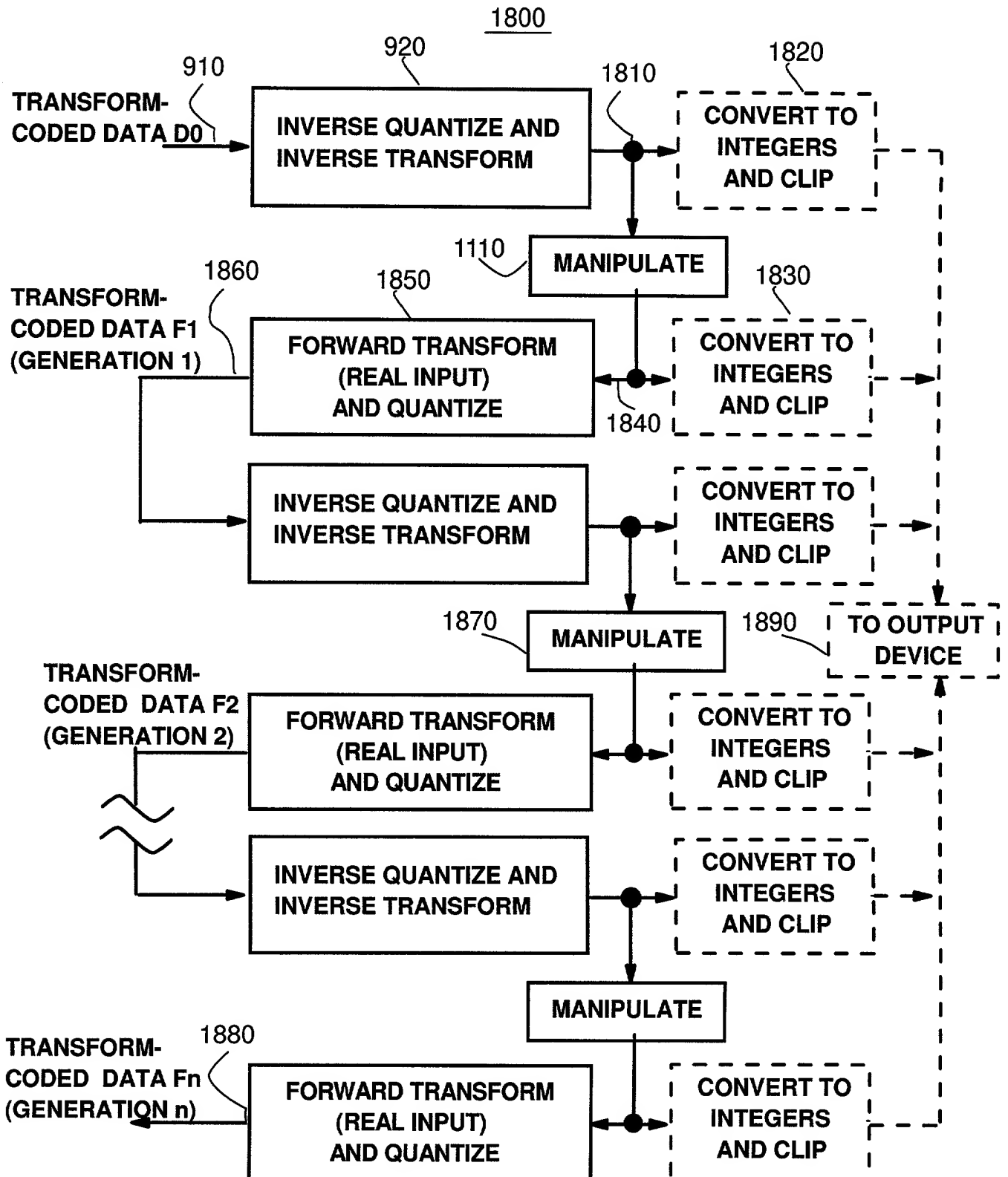


FIG. 18(a)

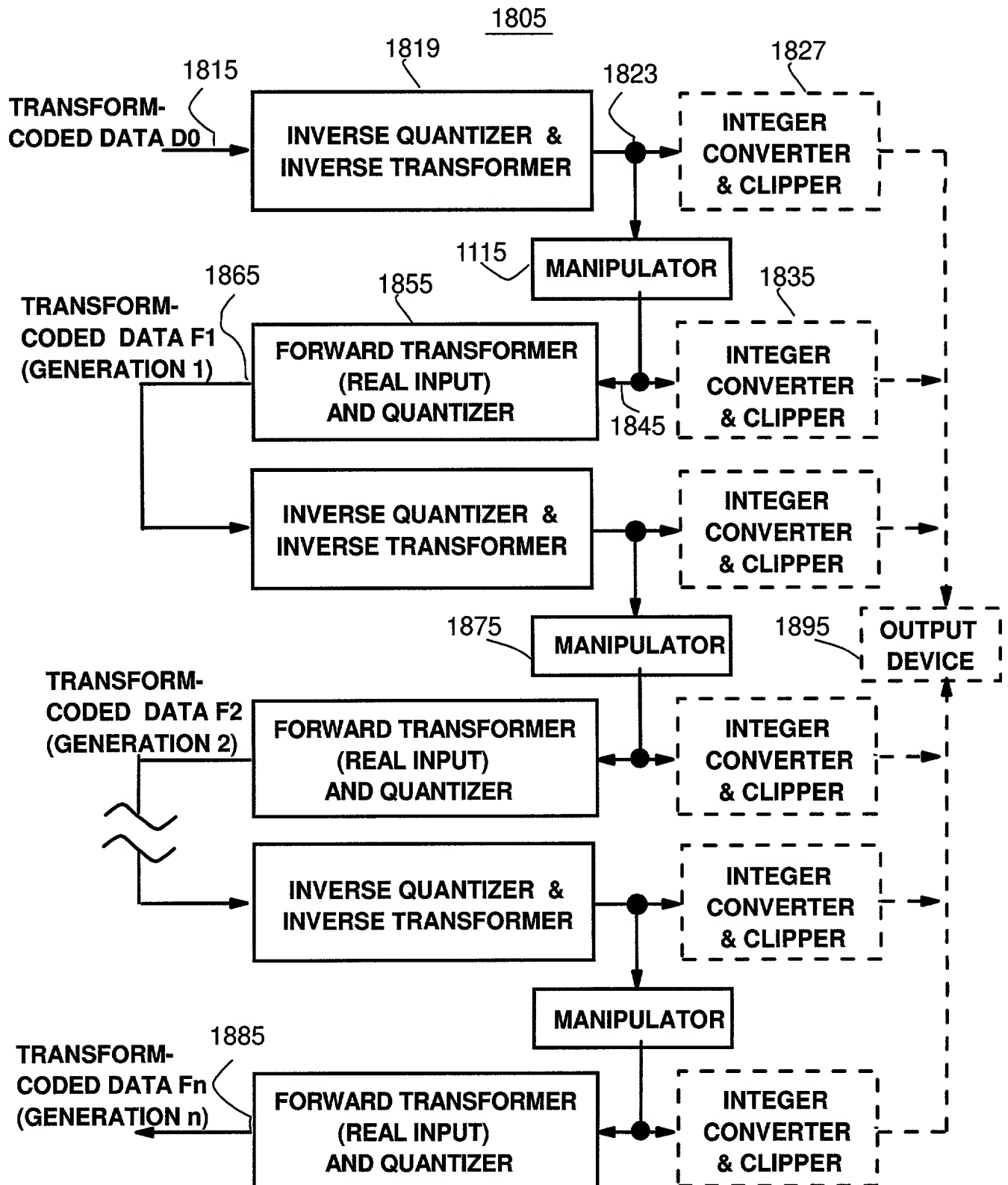


FIG. 18(b)

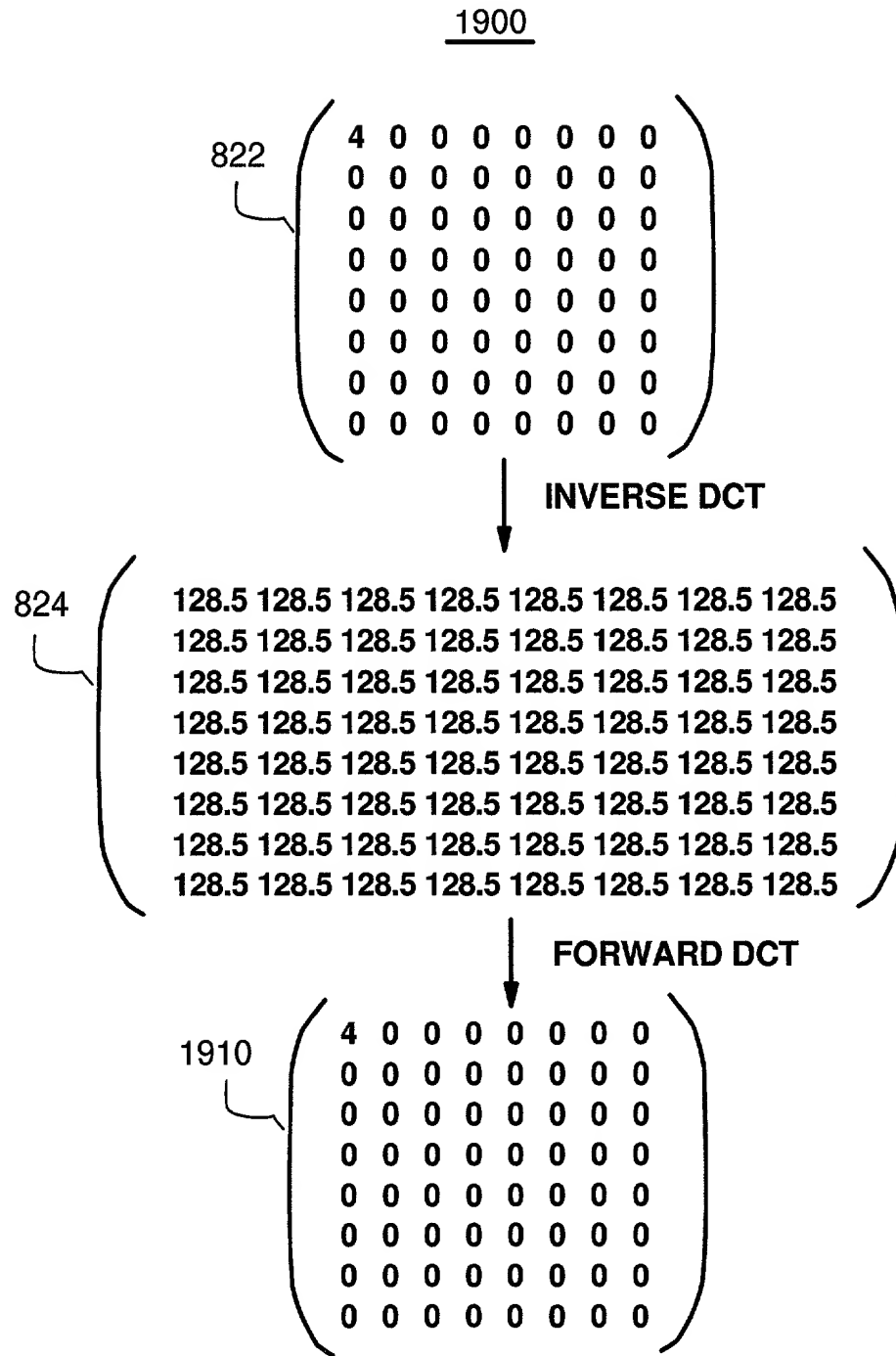


FIG. 19(a)

[illegible]

FIG. 19(b)

1940

874

$$\begin{pmatrix} -34 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

INVERSE QUANTIZE

878

$$\begin{pmatrix} -544 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 495 \end{pmatrix}$$

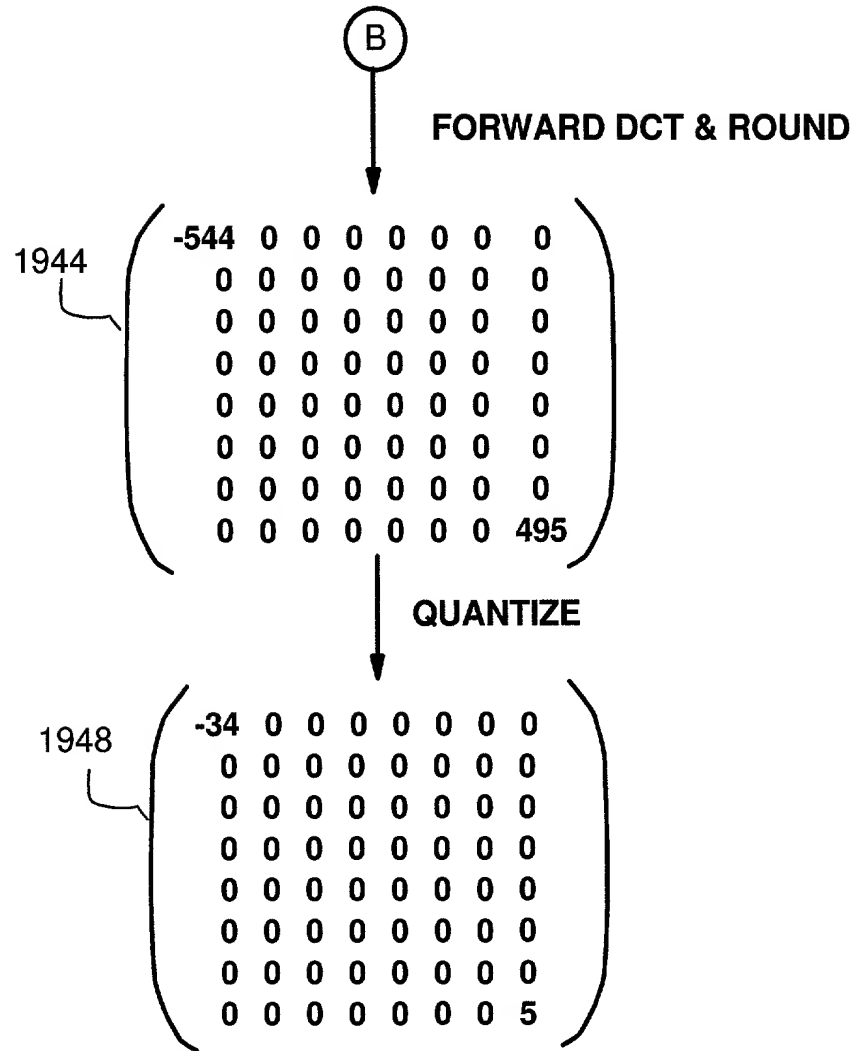
INVERSE DCT & ROUND

882

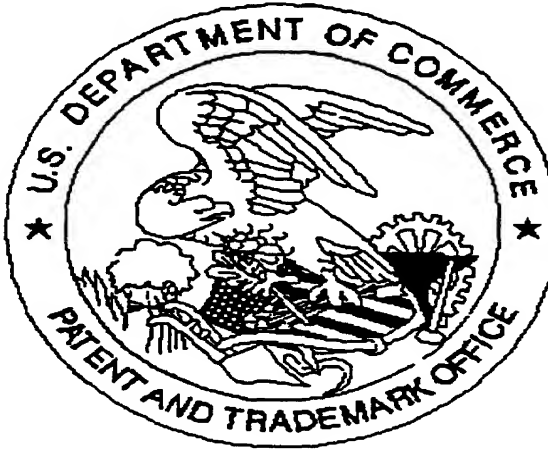
$$\begin{pmatrix} 65 & 47 & 80 & 36 & 84 & 40 & 73 & 55 \\ 47 & 98 & 3 & 127 & -7 & 117 & 22 & 73 \\ 80 & 3 & 146 & -41 & 161 & -26 & 117 & 40 \\ 36 & 127 & -41 & 179 & -59 & 161 & -7 & 84 \\ 84 & -7 & 161 & -59 & 179 & -41 & 127 & 36 \\ 40 & 117 & -26 & 161 & -41 & 146 & 3 & 80 \\ 73 & 22 & 117 & -7 & 127 & 3 & 98 & 47 \\ 55 & 73 & 40 & 84 & 36 & 80 & 47 & 65 \end{pmatrix}$$

B

FIG. 19(c)

**FIG. 19(d)**

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for scanning. (Document title)

☐ Page(s) _____ of _____ were not present
for scanning. (Document title)

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